



Parent-School Communication Scenario II

The following scenario provides an example of how communication can be important to help students who are struggling. By answering the following questions, use this story to reflect upon ways that improved communication can help increase student academic achievement.

John was always an average student during elementary and middle school, and his parents never bothered him as long as he passed his classes. But now during his first year of high school, John is becoming less interested in school and even pretending to be sick so he can stay home. When his parents make him go to school, he sometimes skips the classes that his teachers will not notice if he is missing. His parents expect John to be more responsible now that he is in high school, but he is starting to struggle more in his classes and his grades continue to drop. At home, he avoids talking about school with his parents and has even hidden some progress reports from them. Eventually his parents receive a failure report notification from the school indicating that he will not be promoted to the next grade level based on his current grades.

1. Who might be the first person that his parents contact when they receive the failure notice?
2. In order to help John in school, what might his parents ask John's teachers?
3. Since John is not passing more than one class, who might be a good person for his parents to work with at the school?
4. What might be some possible ways his parents can monitor John's progress?
5. Moving forward, what would be some good ways for John's parents and teachers to communicate?
6. What might his parents have done differently at the start of the school year?