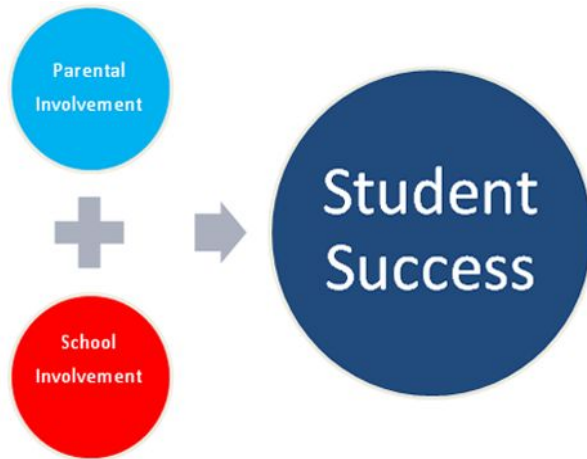


# Parent Involvement

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Parent involvement in schools is much more than parent conferences and PTOs. While the nation and our public education system have changed a lot since 1921, one factor—family engagement—remains critical to student achievement. Ongoing research shows that family engagement in schools improves student achievement, reduces absenteeism, and restores parents' confidence in their children's education. Students with involved parents or other caregivers earn higher grades and test scores, have better social skills, and show improved behavior.

The most significant type of involvement is what parents do at home. By monitoring, supporting and advocating, parents can be engaged in ways that ensure that their children have every opportunity for success.

**IN FACT...**Regardless of family income or background, students whose parents are involved in their schooling are more likely to have higher grades and test scores, attend school regularly, have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school.

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Becoming active in a school's parent group is an important way to increase involvement. Involvement also encompasses:

- Setting goals with children and fostering achievement of those goals;
- Accessing and using children's academic scores to ensure they're on track;
- Frequently viewing the parent portal (or whichever tool their school uses);
- Developing a relationship with children's teachers and keeping in touch with them often; and
- Advocating for improvements in the school building and with local school boards and state and federal government to ensure schools have the resources they need to provide a world class education to every student.

*Great schools are a basic right and our shared responsibility. To all parents and families, "thank you" for being part of the education team! Find out more on how parents and families can contribute to student success by visiting <http://parents.nea.org/>*

