



Fact Sheet

Maintaining a Home-School Relation

by Myrna Medina, CDBS Family Specialist

Families and professionals may have difficulty maintaining a connection and an effective method for sharing information about what is happening at home and school. It is important to understand that maintaining that connection and building relationships is sometimes hard, but always necessary.

The following are some general strategies families can use to establish and maintain a good relationship between home and school:

1. It is very important that, at the beginning of the year, both teachers and family members understand how information will be shared between home and school, and to understand how concerns and problems will be handled. It is also important for families and professional to know what to expect from one another.
2. Get to know your child's program; plan to visit your child's classroom frequently, i.e., at least 2 or 3 times a month.
3. Have regular informal meetings with professionals, e.g., teachers, itinerant specialist, 1:1 aides and other staff. To help you remember everything you want to discuss, write down all your questions and concerns you want to share with them.
4. Remember not to be afraid to openly ask questions and to expect answers.
5. Ask the teachers for your child's daily schedule and for information on how this is implemented to accomplish established goals and objectives.
6. Create a daily journal for sharing written comments and concerns on a daily basis from home to school and school to home. A binder with your child's name is a simple tool to use for this communication.
7. Create a parents' board in your child's classroom to post important information.
8. Be available to participate in and volunteer for school activities.
9. Whenever possible, make yourself available by phone for any last minute things.
10. Check your child's backpack for important information.
11. Network with other family members to communicate and share important information.
12. Understand that it is important to make the commitment to follow through on any methods that are decided on to maintain the connection and a good relation between home and school.

For more information contact:

Tanni Anthony
Colorado Department of Education
Special Education Services Unit
201 E. Colfax Avenue, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 303-866-6681
Email: anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
Fax: 303-866-6811

or

Gina Quintana
Colorado Department of Education
Special Education Services Unit
201 E. Colfax Avenue, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-6605
quintana_g@cde.state.co.us

Fact Sheets from the Colorado Services to Children with Deafblindness are to be used by both families and professionals serving individuals with vision and hearing loss. The information applies to children, birth through 21 years of age. The purpose of the Fact Sheet is to give general information on a specific topic. More specific information for an individual student can be provided through personalized technical assistance available from the Colorado Deafblindness Project. For more information call (303) 866-6681 or (303) 866-6605.

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