

Getting

The BOE Parent/Family Involvement Policy #2403

Communicating

Communication between home and school is regular, two way, and meaningful.

■ Parent Information Night

Lahainaluna High School held quarterly events to give parents information about their school. Topics ranged from Internet Safety and drug abuse prevention to College Planning. The principal opened the meetings and was available for questions and concerns. The PTSA, SCC and Booster Clubs also had opportunities to speak with parents.

■ E-Notes

At King Kekaulike High School, parents access daily bulletins and learn of other opportunities and events at the school through E-Notes, emailed from the school. Busy parents still stay connected by receiving 5-10 emails a month.

Parenting

Responsible parenting is promoted/supported

■ Good Beginnings Makawao

Makawao Elementary School held a family education program for caregivers of infants through age five. Parents participated with their children at play and learning activities guided by an early childhood teacher. The program helps parents gain confidence as their child's first teacher while providing quality preschool experiences for the youngster.

■ Parent Academy

Lunalilo Elementary School gave parents the opportunity to attend classes and workshops that helped them with parenting skills at home. Topics were based on a needs assessment and included tips on doing homework and effective discipline.

Student Learning

Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning, including successful achievement of the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards.

■ Math Talk Story

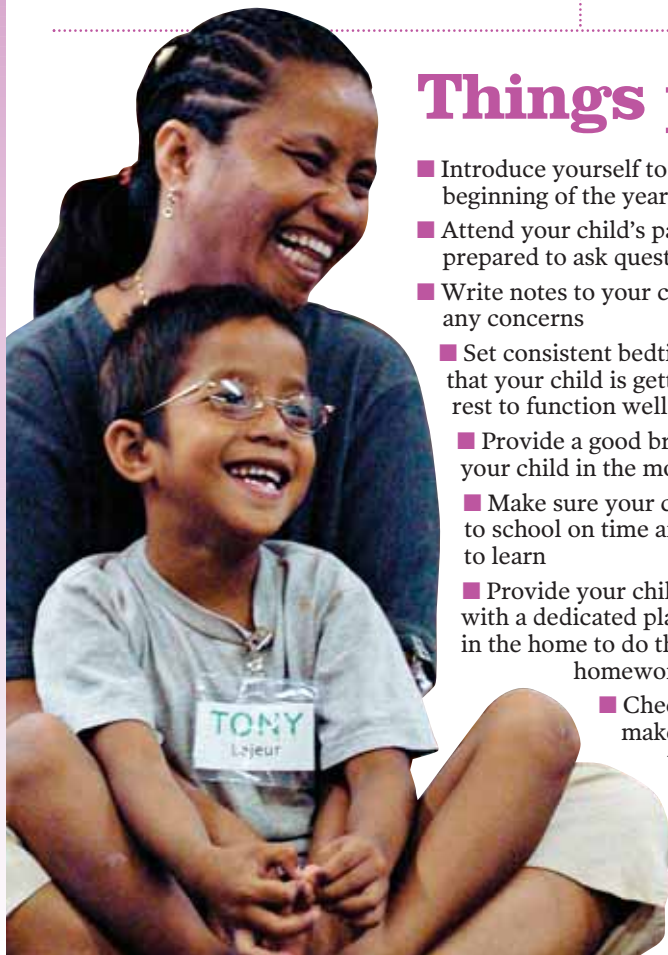
Each grade level at Mililani Uka Elementary School hosted a "Math Talk Story" evening for families. Math terminology, activities, and strategies used in school were introduced to parents, enabling them to assist their children with math homework and help strengthen math skills.

■ Lunch & Lessons

Kipapa Elementary School parents were invited to join their child for lunch and a lesson. After eating, they observed a standards-based Language Arts/or Math lesson and were given time to work with their child. This activity gave parents a better understanding of what a standards-based education involves.

Things parents can do to get involved

- Introduce yourself to your child's teacher at the beginning of the year and start on a positive note
- Attend your child's parent/teacher conference prepared to ask questions
- Write notes to your child's teacher if you have any concerns
- Set consistent bedtimes to make sure that your child is getting enough rest to function well in school
- Provide a good breakfast for your child in the morning
- Make sure your child gets to school on time and ready to learn
- Provide your child with a dedicated place in the home to do their homework
- Check to make sure they are completing their homework assignments
- Ask your child's teacher how you can best help your child to learn at home
- Let the school know if you have any special skills or talents that the school could use
- Ask your child's teacher if there is any way that you could help out
- Serve at your child's school (in the classroom, in the office or library, etc.)
- Go to School Community Council meetings, or better yet, run for a seat
- Get involved with programs your child participates in (band boosters, athletics, the arts, etc.)
- Join the school's parent organization (PTA, School Ohana, etc.)
- Help the school make connections with contacts you have
- Ask your workplace if they would like to get involved in supporting your child's school
- Suggest potential partners to the school to help them meet needs.



involved

The Board of Education recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and the family during the entire period the child spends in

school. To support the goal of the Department of Education to educate all students effectively, schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. In 2001, the Board of Education approved

Parent/Family Involvement Policy #2403. This policy is modeled after the National Network of Partnership School's work on the Framework for Six Types of Parent/Family involvement.

Volunteering

Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought.

■ Na Ali i Program

Pahoa Elementary School and parent volunteers created the Na Ali'i Program to recognize and encourage positive behavior, social and leadership skills, and increase self-esteem to enhance the social environment at school and in the community.

■ Make A Difference Day

Over 150 parents, students, teachers, staff, administrators and community members volunteered to clean classrooms and the library at Baldwin High School. Local businesses donated hardware and supplies and volunteers provided the labor so that students and parents would have a school they could be proud of attending.

Decision Making

Parents are partners in the decisions that affect children and families.

■ School Community Council (SCC)

All schools have School Community Councils, an elected group made up of community, parents, teachers, school staff and the principal. The SCC gives parents an opportunity to give input to the academic and financial planning of the school.

■ PTA/Ohana Groups

These parent-driven organizations support the school's mission and provide resources that make an impact on what schools can offer their students and families.

■ Parent Leadership Workshops

Sessions emphasize the importance of parents as partners in the school's decision-making process and train them to do so.

Collaborating

Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.

■ Cyber Safety

Honolulu Police Department Detective Chris Duque teamed with Kaimuki Middle School to conduct an internet awareness workshop that gave parents and students an opportunity to learn together and reinforce school practices on internet etiquette and safe internet use.

■ Community Resource Fair

Waipahu Intermediate School created an event to strengthen relationships between the community and school so that parents gained knowledge of available resources. Many agencies participated and parents and students were able to meet, learn and talk to representatives about various programs.



Parent's checklist

Are you using good parenting skills? Answer these easy questions and see! Many people find this self-evaluation helpful to determine areas of strength or weakness in their parenting skills. Each area

listed is considered to be very important in rearing healthy, happy, and successful children. A Parent's Checklist is for your personal use.

Source: Hillsborough County Public Schools, Florida

- I am consistent, firm, and fair when I discipline my child.
- I teach my child to identify choices and make decisions.
- I know where my child is, what he or she is doing.
- I establish family routines.
- I require my child to help out by doing chores.
- I display my child's school work around the house.
- I teach my child to respect authority.
- I make sure my child knows the rules and expectations in our household.
- I read and respond to information sent home regarding achievement of my child.
- I teach my child to tolerate differences in other people.
- I help my child when he or she is having difficulty in school.
- I set an example for my child for not abusing alcohol or drugs.
- I show affection to my child daily.
- I stress the importance of education.
- I know my child's teachers.
- I make sure my child is in school and on time every day.
- I set the example of hard work and personal responsibility.
- I set aside time each day for my child to share with me what he or she has done.
- I see that my child has sufficient rest and nutrition daily.
- I spend time being physically active with my child at least 3 times a week.
- I plan outdoor family outings.
- I take care of my child and myself through regular medical and dental care.
- I praise my child for his/her good behavior and efforts.
- I set a good example for my child by volunteering at my child's school and community.
- I plan a family meeting once a week.
- I read with my child daily.



Make time to get involved

Ask yourself...

1. Can I volunteer in the a.m. or p.m?
2. What are my work skills?
(Clerical, filing, Word Processing, Systems Design)
3. What are my interests and hobbies?
(Gardening, Crafts, Sports, Computer, Other)
4. What would you like to learn to do?
5. How do you think you can best help your school?

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Supervision

- before school
- recess, playground
- lunch
- after school
- excursions, field trips
- cross walks

Communication and technology

- phone trees
- email communications
- web page design and maintenance
- newsletters and enewsletters
- computer maintenance and repairs

Building and maintenance/ grounds and facilities

- painting, plumbing, electricity
- landscaping, masonry
- maintenance, cleaning
- construction, carpentry

Teacher support

- copying, collating worksheets
- tutoring, mentoring
- coordinate book orders
- career education speaker
- classroom parent
- read-alouds
- assist with class activity

Office help

- filing
- answering phones
- data base management

Leadership

- PTSA or PTO
- School Community Councils
- Advisory committees
- School, community, business partnership committees

Health, nutrition, wellness

- organize intramural games
- assist with Wellness Policy

Enrichment

- art, music, dance, P.E.
- Science Fair projects
- Speech Festivals, Math Competitions
- Spelling Bees, Geography Bees
- May Day, Graduation
- Year Book

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PCNC

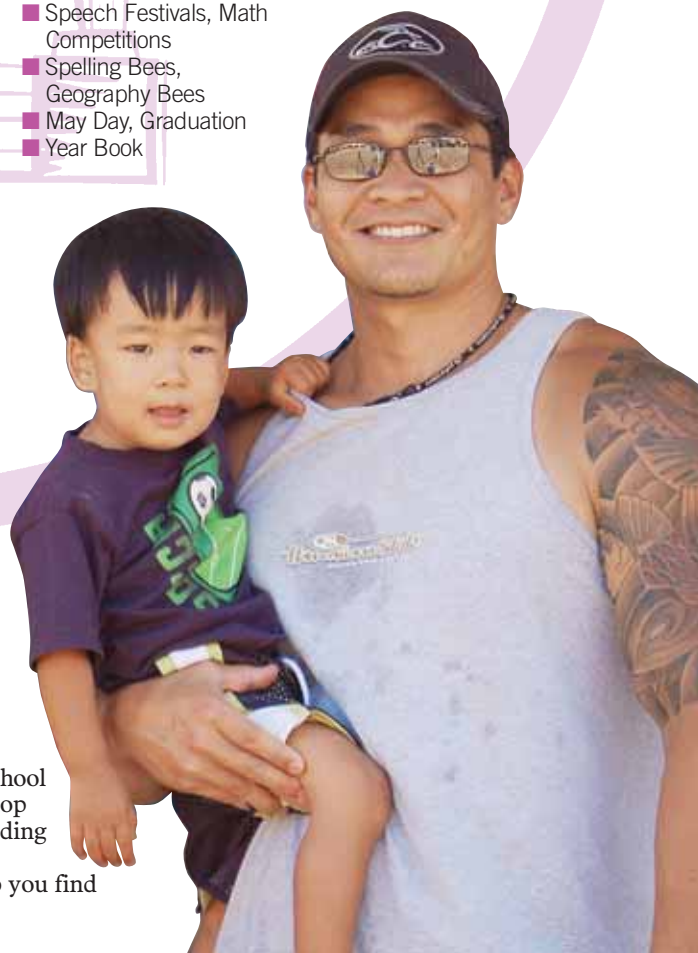
Parent Community Networking Centers

Most schools employ a Parent Community Networking Center (PCNC) Facilitator to help parents connect with their children's school. The PCNC Facilitator works part time at the school to help create supportive partnerships among home, school, and community, for the purpose of supporting student success!



Call your school PCNC facilitator if you:

- Have a question and don't know who to ask
 - Want to volunteer at the school
 - Want to request a workshop
 - Need help with understanding DOE language or policies
- PCNC Facilitators can help you find the help you need!



Who do YOU need to know

at your child's school?



A child's school can be an intimidating place for parents to visit if they don't know who to talk to. Here are some of the people at the school who are there to partner with parents. Get to know them. They are there to help you help your child succeed!

Teachers - A parent's first point of contact. Any concern about your child can be taken to his or her teacher.

Parent Community Networking Center (PCNC) Facilitator - develops a sense of community and a caring, learning network to help families help their children succeed.

Student Services Coordinator (SSC) - coordinates any services students may need beyond the regular classroom.

School Counselor - helps students with personal, social, and academic needs, consults with parents and serves as a resource when challenging situations arise.

Health Aide - answers questions and concerns about your child's health and wellness.

Librarian - provides resources for both parents and children.

Primary School Adjustment Program (PSAP) Educational Assistant - assists students in Kindergarten through Grade 2 with developing appropriate social skills.

Vice-Principal - generally handles discipline and safety issues.

Principal - is responsible for the functioning and success of the entire school community.

Office Staff - greets visitors and provides direction for parent inquiries.

DOE glossary

This mini glossary will help parents get through the Department of Education's "educationese" or what is fondly called alphabet soup. A more comprehensive list of acronyms can be found on Hawaii's Department of Education website: <http://doe.k12.hi.us/acronyms.htm>

- A+** After-School Plus Program
- AYP** Adequate Yearly Progress
- CAS** Complex Area Superintendent
- DOE** Dept. of Education
- EA** Educational Assistant
- ELL** English Language Learner
- GLO** General Learner Outcomes

- HAEYC** . . . Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children
- NCLB** No Child Left Behind Act
- PCNC** Parent-Community Networking Center
- PPT** Paraprofessional Tutors
- PSAP** Primary School Adjustment Project
- PTA** Parent Teacher Association
- PTO** Parent Teacher Organization
- PTSA** Parent Teacher Student Association
- Rubrics** . . . A set of guidelines for rating student work that describes what is being assessed and provides a scoring scale

- SASA** School Administrative Services Assistant
- SES** Supplemental Education Services
- SCC** School Community Council
- Standards** The performance standards represent what is expected of students at benchmark grade levels
- PTT** Part-time Teacher
- SPED** Special Education
- HSA** Hawaii State Assessment
- CSS** Comprehensive Student Support System
- SBBH** School Based Behavioral Health

Parent Project

Parent Project® is a comprehensive, award winning program for parents of challenging children. There are three curriculums available: Parent Project, Sr., for parents of teens; Parent Project Jr.-Loving Solutions, for parents of children 5-10 years of age; and Choosing Success, Choosing Life, for teens.

Parent Project® offers parents concrete, no-nonsense solutions in a straightforward, step-by-step action plan that takes immediate steps toward addressing their child's challenges. Parent Project® is both prevention and intervention. The strategies in this curriculum can benefit all families facing today's societal challenges.

- Improve children's grades and school attendance
- Stop parent-child arguments

- Prevent (or stop) children from using drugs and alcohol
- Learn strategies to "out-will" the strong-willed child
- Prevent or intervene in adolescent destructive behavior that may shorten children's lives or shatter their dreams
- Restore strained relationships and strengthen the family

Classes are offered free for all parents and guardians statewide with a small fee for parent workbooks. Scholarships are available.

For more information or to find upcoming classes in your area, contact **June Kawamura** at 733-4737 or go to these websites: parentproject.com or familysupport.k12.hi.us.