

Standard 4

Educators value the involvement and support of parents, guardians, families and communities in school

Arrowview Teacher Introduction to Students and Parents



Arrowview Elementary was where I had my first practicum. Prior to the practicum I sent out a newsletter to parents and students introducing myself. This really fostered a positive and open parent-teacher relationship. Parents came into the class to read with students during the first twenty minutes of school, came for craft days and sent requested items to school with their child.

During my second practicum at Cilaire Elementary School, I wrote weekly and monthly newsletters to parents. In these newsletters I informed parents what their child was learning and ways to extend learning into the home. In addition to newsletters, my sponsor teacher showed me how to print out important reminders onto stickers and I put these reminders into students' agendas. The result of these methods of communication lead to greater parent participation. Parents noticed their child's growth in the classroom. They were able to have more influence in their child's educational success and developed more trust in the teacher. Parents didn't have to rely on their child to hand them forms or to remind them of important dates. Parents knew that they should expect that get a newsletter every Friday and to check in their planner for important messages.

When I have my own classroom, I hope to use some of these communication practices to increase parent-teacher partnership.