

Classroom Realities of Parents and Principals

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It's fun to talk to students about their
future plans and dreams...



"I have this fantasy of someday being the director
of the nursing home you'll eventually be sent to."



NOTE: Illustration from "Kutowski 2000: Redefining Privacy and
Responsibility" by S. J. Kutowski, 1990. Phi Kappa Phi.

A mistake we often
make in education is
to plan the curriculum
materials very
carefully, arrange all
the instructional
materials wall to wall,
open the doors of the
school, and then find
to our dismay that
they've sent us the
wrong kids.

AND PARENTS!

What does a concerned parent look like?

One that actively participates in school activities when
scheduled (ie: parent/teacher conferences, or open house)

A parent that actively participates in school's PTA or PTO
programs

Making sure their child's homework is completed

Make sure their child is at school and on time

Monitoring behavior of child

What expectations can and should parents place on educators?

To be informed

Fairness and consistency

Recognize each child as an individual

Use whatever method will help the children "get it"

Listen and consider the parents input

Have fun

The IEP and YOUR child!



Make sure your teacher has seen entire copy of the IEP

Educators need to know what they are expected to
contribute and what kinds of support they are going to
receive in return

Need to know how to express the child's progress,
weaknesses in a positive manner

Be willing to try new approaches on students with special
needs

How does a parent interact with teachers and principals?

Make contact early in school year so that teacher knows you want to be involved

Email/call when there are questions....don't let issues go unnoticed, keep on top of them

Volunteer at school

Join school related activities (PTA, Booster Clubs)

Interacting with Principals and Educator..

- Call with ANY issue you may have
- If you can't solve the problem, find someone who will help you do that
- But when push comes to shove and all is said and done what is it really about?

RELATIONSHIPS



Reflective Questions



- What actions am I willing to take?
- What commitments am I willing to make?
- What will I do when my child does not make expected growth?
- Who is my focus?
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5kn4OBRxro>



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