

## Family Involvement & Engagement at Your School!

Here are some ways you might be able to get involved at your school.

- **Enrichment clubs.** Start an after-school enrichment club! What are you passionate about? Is it making collages, singing, hula-hooping, dancing, basketball? Collaborate with a teacher or staff to lead a club with students after school. Think about what resources you have in your neighborhood to help you out—are you passionate about cooking but your school doesn't have a kitchen? Maybe the church across the street would be willing to lend you their kitchen for the afternoon!
- **Smile!** Say hi and smile a lot to teachers and school staff...this might seem silly, but this goes a long way. They might be as shy with you as you are with them at first!
- **Take your Family to School Day!** The National PTA holds this event every year in February, but you could work with your school to choose a week every year to hold the event!
- **Ask your kids.** Ask your kids how they would like you to be involved. They might have some creative and fun ideas for you!
- **Class reader/storyteller!** Literacy is a big focus of almost every school. Ask your child's teacher about visiting the class one time to be a special guest reader! You could share your favorite childhood story or a favorite oral story from your family, culture, background or travels.
- **Homework!** Don't forget that assisting your child with their homework is an important way to be involved—but not always the first one families think of! You are helping your student be successful by making sure they complete their homework!
- **Showing up at school.** This is another way that families often don't think of as way of being involved, but it takes a lot to get your student up and to school on time every day. Give yourself a pat on the back for making sure your child makes it to school ready to learn!
- **Event support.** Find out if you can help hand out programs at the next concert or open house. Or even be a door greeter! Can't make the event? Perhaps you could fold programs at home or spread the word in your neighborhood.
- **Feedback.** Could the school improve on how they communicate with families? Do you have an idea of for a parent/family class or activity that would really be relevant for families? Offer feedback with ideas on how the school can effectively communicate with all families. Find who the best person is to sit down to talk to—often the principal is very busy, but the guidance counselor, school social worker or other staff might be the right person to talk to!
- **Share your knowledge.** You know your child the best! Share her strengths and challenges with school staff to help them get to know her. This will allow the school to create the best learning environment for your child.
- **What are other ways you can think of to get involved? List them here:**