

## Partner with Your School

The level of collaboration between families and educators is an important predictor of student academic achievement. Parents and family members who establish strong, positive relationships with school staff have more opportunities to learn about the education system and become better education advocates.

Successful school-family partnerships are built on mutual respect, trust, equality, and a joint vision for student achievement. There are a number of ways you can be an active partner with your child's school:

- Start the relationship right—let school staff know you respect them and will work with them.
- Ask your child regularly how he or she thinks things are going at school. If things are not going well, ask his/her opinion for improvement.
- Look for chances to help your child communicate his/her thoughts and feelings to teachers and others.
- Make sure the school has current information about you, your family, emergency contacts, and relevant medical information for your child.
- Attend meetings, parent teacher conferences and school events.
- Check in with teachers regularly, not just when there's a problem.
- Know as much as you can about public education. Learn how the school system works and stay informed about current education issues.
- Let the school know you will follow up on important issues concerning your child.
- Keep track of how your child is doing in the classroom. Follow up on reported problems.
- Respond promptly to all communications from school.



## If there is a breakdown in communication:

1. Contact the Principal of the school to request an opportunity to address your concern.
2. Listen to the school's side of the issue.
3. Concerns that cannot be addressed at the school level may be addressed by the CCSD Educational Ombudsman\* Office.

*Parents always have the option to submit a CCSD Public Concern Form, which can be obtained at [CCSD.net](http://CCSD.net)*

*\*An Ombudsman serves as a mediator for parents and the public to communicate education-related concerns.*

**EDUCATIONAL OMBUDSMAN OFFICE 799-1016**

CCSD Police 799-5411

Community/Government Relations 799-1080

CCSD Trustees 799-1072

**Community Members who have questions or concerns regarding CCSD policy or procedures should contact the Ombudsman Office directly.**