



## Tips for Involved Parents from Gwinnett County Public Schools

*Be There* is a national movement that inspires parents to become more involved in their children's education. Teachable moments are everywhere. Be your child's favorite teacher. Connect in meaningful ways and your simple actions will reap immense rewards at home, play, and school!

### 6 Tips to help parents stay involved

*Decades of research show the positive effect of parents being involved in their child's life and education. According to the National PTA, when parents are involved, students have higher achievement, better attendance, and higher rates of graduation and post-secondary enrollment; more motivation and better self-esteem; and fewer disciplinary problems. These positive benefits hold true for all ages and grade levels. Try some of the tips below to help your child succeed.*

**1. Communicate...** Don't wait for trouble before you talk to your child's teacher. Stay in touch with e-mail, phone, or notes. Stay informed through the school Web site, newsletters, and school events. Be aware of school policies and be familiar with the curriculum. (See "AKS" at [www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us).) Read about parent-teacher conferences on the GCPS Web site.

**2. Expect...** A Harvard Family Research Project study shows that parents' high, but realistic, expectations—clearly communicated—translate into student success. Urge your child to take challenging courses. Help her "dream big" and support her postsecondary planning.



**3. Read...** Whether you're reading to your child, reading with him, or talking about what you've read, this literacy focus demonstrates that education is important to you. Even older children may enjoy a read-aloud of a family favorite.

**4. Set routine...** Help your child choose a good time and place for homework and studying. For more pointers, see "9 hints for helping with homework."

**5. Supplement learning...** Choose family field trips that focus on learning, and take advantage of educational resources at the public library, nearby museums, and parks. Use TV wisely. Watch with your child and discuss what you see.

**6. Talk—and listen...** Set aside family time to talk and to share common activities. Listen to your child's concerns. Be supportive and offer help with difficult situations.



*Together, we will be there for our students—  
Gwinnett County Public Schools and YOU!*

**Make the ordinary extraordinary!**

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