

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

in your child's education

REALLY MATTERS!



Research shows that when parents are involved, their children do better in school and the quality of the school improves.

Teachers, principals and others who work for the school are there to help you. Be a voice for your child. Work with the school to make sure your child's needs are being met.

As a parent, you are the advocate who speaks out for your child and the one who supports your child, not just financially but also emotionally, socially and academically.

Find the time to get involved — it makes a world of difference!

(Please see reverse side for Tips)

Your
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not just your
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could **LAST A**
LIFETIME.



VIRGINIA PIRC PARENT INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTER

www.PEATC.org • Toll-free: (800)-869-6782

A project of the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center



11 TIPS FOR GETTING INVOLVED

1. Take your child to school on the first day.
2. Let your child know that school is important. Be sure to ask questions about homework, and set up a quiet place for your child to work.
3. Read everything that is sent home from school—report cards, homework assignments, school lunch plans, and vacation and bus schedules. Show your child that you are well informed.
4. Get to know your child's teachers and school principal by attending school meetings and parent-teacher conferences.
5. Ask for copies of school policies (e.g., attendance, discipline, homework). Ask questions if there is something you do not understand.
6. Volunteer to help out with school activities. Attend sports events, help out with fundraisers, or volunteer to work in the school office.
7. Visit your child's classroom when class is in session, not just at parent-teacher conferences. Set this up in advance with the school office and the teacher.
8. Talk to other parents. If there is a PTA or parent organization, join it. If there is no parent organization at your school, think about starting one. Finding two or three other interested parents is a good start.
9. Encourage your child to read at home. Visit local libraries or use book mobiles, school libraries, or book fairs and pick out books together. Choose books for each other to read.
10. Get involved in school funding, planning and improvement efforts through school improvement teams or school board participation.
11. Your actions, not just your words, make an impression that could last a lifetime.

Adapted from U.S. Department of Education, Office of Communications and Outreach, Empowering Parents School Box: Taking a Closer Look, and 100 Tips for Parents, Washington, D.C.

For more information or workshops about parent involvement, contact PEATC-VIRGINIA PIRC (see reverse side).