Beginning Teacher Newsletter

Bladen County Schools

Why Do You Communicate With Parents?

The word communicate is defined as share or exchange information, news, or ideas. Communicating with parents can be informative, productive, supportive and collaborative or communicating with parents can be challenging, frustrating, and one more dreaded activity your principal has asked you to complete. So, why do you need to communicate with parents, legal guardians or caretakers for the students in your class? Element I: Teachers advocate for schools and students and Element II: Teachers work collaboratively with the families and significant adults in the lives of their students are listed in the professional standards as a guide for teachers to engage all stakeholders in the school community. The flow of information today is faster, more graphic and more fluid than any other time in history. If you as the teacher are not sharing, exchanging information, news or ideas with your parents and community stakeholders, should you wonder where they are getting their information. Communicating with parents gives the teacher an opportunity to be an advocate for the student by celebrating successes and accomplishments or discussing the high expectations or learning targets set for the student. Communicating with parents opens the door to a partnership with parents to surround students with a support system that focuses on learning and growth. Communicate is a verb an action word. Reflect on these questions as you review your Student/Parent and Community Contact Logs. What action(s) do you have in place to communicate with parents? Why do you communicate with parents? Are you being an advocate for your students by working collaboratively with the adults in their lives?

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To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.

Tony Robbins

December Activities

In December, we will focus on our progress check meeting. Each teacher will need to bring a device to access NCEES and copies or access to their Mentor Contact Logs, Staff/Professional Development Logs and Student/Parent and Community Contact Logs. The meetings will be as listed below:

Third year teachers will meet on December 3. Second year teachers will meet on December 4. First year teachers will meet on December 6. All meetings will begin at 3:30 p.m. and will be held at the District Office.

Special Points of interest when communicating with parents:

- Find a method to communicate regularly with all parents/legal guardians
- Listen to the parent/legal guardian
- Be honest, be open and be professional
- Effectively and professionally use electronic communication
- Share good news, success, concerns and/or areas of improvement in a balanced manner