FAMILY/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Did you know that strong parent/family involvement is the best predictor of student success? Children have greater school and life success when parents and families encourage their children’s learning, set high, yet realistic goals, and become involved in decision making about their child’s education.

As you begin your school year, make an effort to make all families feel welcome in your school. When parents understand procedures for visiting and volunteering at the school, it makes them more comfortable and more likely to come back.

Many parents feel that they have talents but just simply do not know how they can contribute. Make a list that explains each volunteer activity with skills required and the expected amount of time each should take. A survey may be sent out to parents sharing the list of these opportunities giving them a chance to choose what they would like to be involved in. Be honest with parents and the community about expectations. It is important to have personal contact with anyone that volunteers about what job they will be doing, when to report, where the activity will be held, how to sign in and the time required to do the job. Always take time to properly thank your volunteers and make them feel appreciated!

Engaging parents in their child’s education is one of the best things your PTA can do for the school this year. If you need more information on how to engage your parents/families or have programs you want to share, please feel free to contact me via email at family.community@floridapta.org.

Have a wonderful and productive year!

Jenny Dyess
Family/Community Engagement Chair