



“Absolutes” for Georgia Parent Mentors

Engagement Standard: Communication

Absolutes:

- Frequent dialogue with the special education director and other key staff members.
- Communicate at least three times a week with other parent mentors on the Parent Mentor Partnership List Serve. Visit www.parentmentors.org and the Learning Curve a minimum of two times a week.
- Refer families to the state’s **First Stop** for information on resources and support, www.parenttoparentofga.org Parent to Parent of Georgia. Also, keep Parent to Parent’s database on your county’s resources up to date.
- Find one effective way to reach parents at least once a month to promote services and training such as a web link on your district’s web page, e-board, newsletter articles in school publications, flyers and group e-mails.

Engagement Standard: Collaboration

Absolutes:

- Team with Title I Family Involvement, ESOL, middle and/or High school graduation coaches.
- Collaborate with community agencies to provide family support services and adult learning.
- Regularly inform school staff of the resources available in the community.
- Develop partnerships with local business.

Engagement Standard: Learning

Absolutes:

- Develop plan to encourage families to support classroom instruction thru learning at home.
- Learn about family traditions within the community’s cultural and religious diversity and work to communicate needs in the schools.
- Collaborate with school staff to find and distribute in more than the traditional ways additional resources for parents to use at home to help

their child. For example: take home packets from lending library, CRCT prep and test taking tips.

- Team with educators to provide “help sheets” for parents to guide them in helping their child with his/her homework assignment.

Engagement Standard: Parenting

Absolutes:

- Create parent training, discussion groups and action groups.
- Present to educators the trials, hardships, and joys of being a parent of a child with a disability.
- Encourage families to understand the educators’ role
- Provide emotional support by being a good listener to your parent’s needs and/or concerns.

Engagement Standard: Volunteering

Absolutes:

- Encourage all families to engage in their child’s school.
- Become active in the schools local PTA or any other parent group.
- Offer working parents alternative ways to volunteer.

Engagement Standard: Decision Making

Absolutes:

- Become an active member of your districts Stakeholders team.
- Seek opportunities to be trained and to serve in leadership roles.
- Train parents to become leaders in their local school system.
- Understand the local, regional, and state issues on education and disabilities and communicate information to families.

Prepared by Pam Moore, Tracy Rogers and Scott Crain, GA. Parent Mentors, Oct 2007