



Office of the Commissioner

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November 30, 2007

Dear Parents:

Your involvement as a parent and family member in your child's education is of critical importance to us and has been and continues to be a priority of schools and districts in Kansas. We know that when schools effectively involve you as parents and families in support of your children and their education, meaningful and lasting results are produced. Anne Henderson (author of *Beyond the Bake Sale*) once said:

“When parents are involved in their children's education at home, they do better in school. And when parents are involved in school, children go farther in school – and the schools they go to are better” (Henderson & Berla, 1994).

Please know that not only do we value your participation as a parent in your child's or any child's education, but we honor it as well. Your vision for the future of your child's education is of utmost importance to us and your engagement in this process is one of the keys to a school's and your child's success. Your involvement is a dynamic force that influences your child's future success.

Our role in education is to ensure that schools not only actively engage you as parents in the education of your children, but to also ensure that you play an integral role in assisting in your child's learning. Additionally, we promise to keep you informed of the expectations we have for your child, and to regularly report your student's progress. We also believe that communication between home and school must be regular, two-way and meaningful. Parents are always welcome in the schools, and your assistance and support are constantly sought.

It is our belief and practice that schools must view parents as full partners in the decisions that affect your child and your family. Please work with us to ensure that your child benefits from his/her educational program. Thank you for your support of education in the state of Kansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexa Posny". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alexa Posny
Commissioner of Education
Kansas Department of Education