

Standard 4

Educators value the involvement and support of parents, guardians, families and communities in schools.

As a future teacher, I have to recognize that I am not the only adult in my students' lives. Although I will treat the students as if they were my own children, I have to realize that, ultimately, the students' parents have the primary role and say in how their children are raised. Thus, as such, parent engagement matters. I believe that student achievement improves when parents play an active role in their children's education. Furthermore, having an involved parent is a key factor in the enhancement of a student's well-being as they will be more likely to be motivated, have better behaviour and social skills, and continue their education after high school.

As a future teacher, I will feel better supported when I nurture positive relationships with the families of students. I feel that open communication between families and teachers is a fundamental way in fostering these relationships. Not only will parents gather insight into my teaching approach, but I will also be able to better support parents' efforts at home in terms of their child's education. Through this ongoing dialogue with parents, I can collaborate with them to create a dynamic learning environment specific to each student.

I feel as though the community plays a large role in students' education. When a student leaves my classroom, I want to make sure that the information they are learning is applicable to the real world. Thus, I will actively seek out partners in the community to make learning as experiential as possible. Taking the students on a field trip or having guest speakers in the classroom will make learning all the more 'real'. By fostering and taking advantage of these community relationships, I will be able to create an environment for students that is informative, but also enriched.

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