

The 40 Developmental Assets were assessed in June, 2005 using the survey *Me and My World*. 43% of the children surveyed in our community report that they experience the asset **Parent involvement in schooling**.

Asset #6: Parent involvement in schooling—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.

Consider this . . .

This asset typically drops between 6th grade and 12th grade (from 50% to 20%), but that doesn't mean it's less important as students get older. Perhaps parents, schools, and students need to work together to find ways to keep parents involved that are comfortable and helpful for all.

Try this . . .

Schools:

- Make it clear to parents when and how they are welcome.
- Provide many opportunities for parents to get involved in different ways.
- Be open to parents' ideas and suggestions.
- Tap into the skills of parents; invite them to be speakers or to help out with special projects or events.

Parents:

- Regularly ask your child about school and to see her or his homework.
- If you can't attend a school event with your child, find someone who can.
- Make an effort to meet and get to know school staff.
- Be an advocate for your child; don't be afraid to speak up about school issues that concern you.

Youth:

- Let your parents know about ways you'd be comfortable having them involved at your school.
- Every once in a while tell your parents about a project or assignment. If you need it, ask them for help.

From *Get the Word Out: Communication Tools and Ideas for Asset Builders Everywhere*.

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