



School Matters

Issue 6

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Special Interest:

Parent involvement is essential in character development and school success.

From the Director of Schools:

We appreciate the cooperation of parents who have regarded our requests for parents to deliver and pick up their children at the designated areas, especially at the middle school. It has allowed our buses to have the space needed to unload students safely and be more punctual in their runs. We are continually monitoring and assessing the subject of safety conditions in our system and will make necessary changes if needed.

We also appreciate the parents who attended the parent-teacher conferences on our last early-dismissal day. Please feel free to contact the teachers, administration or counselors at each school if you wish to schedule an appointment to discuss any issue related to the child as the year progresses.

Thank you,

Dr. Jenny Hatfield

February—The Month to Strengthen Relationships

A letter posted at a Portuguese school has become popular and has become viral. The letter discusses where a school's responsibility begins and where it ends and a parent's responsibility begins.

The letter highlights five key points which I would like to share with you.

- ◆ Magic words such as hello, please, you're welcome, I'm sorry and thank you, all should begin to be learned at home,
- ◆ At home children should be learning about honesty, being on time, being diligent, showing sympathy and showing respect for the elders.
- ◆ Home is where children should learn about organization, taking care of their belongings and it's not ok to touch others.

- ◆ It is at home where children begin learning how to be clean, not talk with their mouths full and how and where to properly dispose of garbage.
- ◆ At school, language, math, history, geography, physics, science and physical education are taught. Schools only reinforce the education that children receive at home from their parents.

This letter reinforces the fact that teaching character and manners **MUST** begin at home, in the early years before the age of 4. Strong school and home relationships are more solid and supportive when parents assume these responsibilities and bring us a student who has a strong basis of social skills.

Remember:

Early Dismissal Day is February 1.

Presidents' Day is February 20.