

**UPCOMING EVENTS
at Cincinnati Public Schools**

Monday, Feb. 9
Board of Education meeting, 7 PM
2651 Burnet Ave., Auditorium

Friday, Feb. 13
Staff professional day
No pupils

Monday, Feb. 16
President's Day
Schools closed

Monday, Feb. 23
Board of Education meeting, 7 PM
2651 Burnet Ave., Auditorium

**WAY
2
GO!**

**Did You Know?
Fast Facts**

Thirty years of research shows that parent and community involvement in schools improves student achievement.

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Make a difference for your child, get involved!

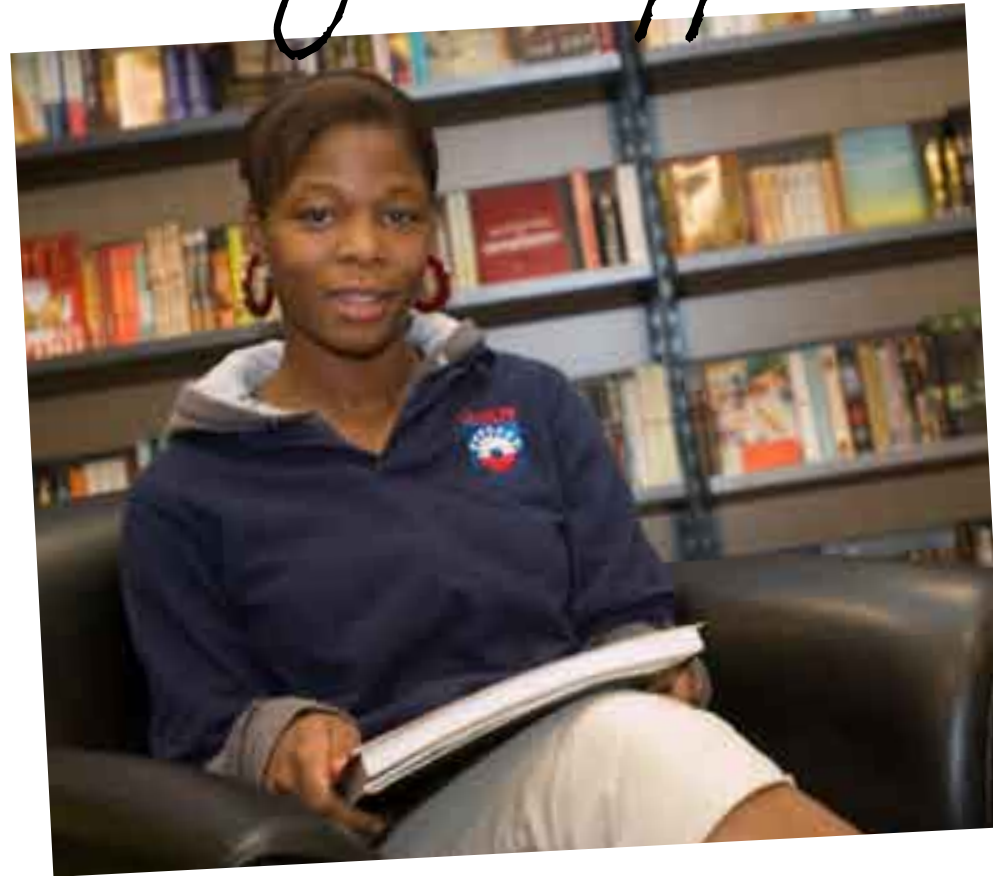


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parent power!

Making a difference in school



Helping Your Child with Homework

Research shows that parent involvement can have either a positive or negative impact on students' homework. Parent involvement can be used to speed up a child's learning. And homework can involve parents in the school process. If you are the parent of a middle or high school student, getting involved with homework can give you an opportunity to express positive attitudes about the value of success in school.

When parents or guardians get involved with their children's homework, communication between the school and family can improve.

It can clarify for parents what is expected of students. It can give parents a firsthand idea of what students are learning and how well their child is doing in school.

Research shows that if a child is having difficulty with homework, parents should become even more involved and pay close attention. They should expect more requests from teachers for their help. On the other hand, if a child is doing well in school, parents should consider backing off a bit and supporting their child's own choices about how to do homework.

Homework can be an effective way for students to improve their learning and for parents to communicate their support for education.



Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.

Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.

Make sure your child has the materials he or she needs, such as paper, pencils and a dictionary. If you don't have a dictionary or other necessary reference book, the library is a good place to go. Not only will the library most likely have the books you need, it is also a generally quiet and well-lit place.

Ask your child if special materials will be needed for some projects and get them in advance.

Help your child with time management.

Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime. Use a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates.

Be positive about homework.

Tell your child how important school is.

The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.

When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.

Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets rough, someone will do the work for him or her.

Cooperate with the teacher. It shows your child that the school and home are a team. Follow the directions given by the teacher.

If homework is meant to be done by your child alone, stay away. Remember that **homework is a great way for kids to develop independent, lifelong learning skills.**

Stay informed. **Talk with your child's teacher.** If you're not sure, ask about the purpose of the homework and what the teacher expects.

Encourage your child to do the hard work first. This will mean he will be most alert when facing the biggest challenges. Then easy material will seem to go fast when fatigue begins to set in.

Watch your child for signs of failure and frustration. Let your child take a short break if she is having trouble keeping her mind on an assignment.

Reward progress in homework. If your child has done well with homework and is working hard, celebrate that success—pizza, a trip to the park—to reinforce the positive effort.

Just For Parents: Managing Manic Mornings

Getting kids fed, ready and to school on time — while you get ready for your day — can be a monumental task. Here are some tips to make your morning routine less hectic:

Prepare the night before. If you're offering cereal for breakfast, get the cereal, bowls and spoons out and on the counter. Check the weather, let everyone know what it will be and have them choose appropriate outfits. Lunch money, homework, pencils, permission slips, etc. should all be gathered and ready the night before.

Make time for breakfast. It serves as a healthy way to start the day both physically and emotionally for the whole family.

Get enough rest. This goes for everyone in the household, including you. And if your teen can't seem to shut down early, at least make sure he's in his room, quietly reading (not watching TV!) as early as possible.

Model a positive attitude. Life isn't always easy — that's a fact — but having a positive attitude about doing things that aren't easy is one of the keys to being a happy, well-adjusted adult. Give your teen this lesson every morning, without the lecture, just by doing it.

Get out of bed before the kids do. Give yourself 10–15 minutes alone to have a cup of coffee or mentally prepare for the day.

Have your children help. Does the dog need to go out? Your 10-year-old can handle that. Delegating some of the morning responsibilities makes the morning less stressful for everyone.

Finish with a loving goodbye. Give them all a hug, including your teen, if she'll let you. It's a perfect way to strengthen your family bond and set the tone for a productive day.