

## **10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed**

It's not a secret – parent involvement increases student success. Years of research confirm that when parents are involved, children achieve more, not only academically, but also in life.

- 1.** Talk with your child. Talking early and often with your children helps them trust you as a source of information and guidance.
- 2.** Set high but realistic expectations. Paying attention to your children's strengths, while acknowledging where they need assistance can help children develop realistic self-expectations.
- 3.** Build your child's self-esteem and confidence. Encourage your children to make choices even if it means making mistakes. This is how children learn and grow.
- 4.** Keep your child healthy. Promote your children's physical, emotional, and social health.
- 5.** Support learning at home. Show that education is important to you and that you value learning.
- 6.** Communicate with your child's school on a regular basis to stay informed and involved.
- 7.** Encourage exploration and discovery. By encouraging your children to develop their interests and seek opportunities to try new things you help them make the most of the world around them.
- 8.** Help your child develop good relationships. All children want to fit in and belong. Helping your children develop friendships that affirm them will go a long way to helping them build solid relationships as adults.
- 9.** Keep your child safe. Teach your children safety procedures and how to avoid dangerous situations.
- 10.** Participate in community service. Children's positive energy and talents can be acknowledged beyond the classroom when used to serve or help others.

(Excerpts taken from "How to Help Your Child Succeed," a part of National PTA's Building Successful Partnerships program).