Standard 1: Welcoming All Families into the School Community

Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued and connected to each other, to school staff and to what students are learning and doing in class.

- 2nd Cup of Coffee – When parents drop off their students they are invited to share a cup of coffee with staff members. This takes place quarterly and is an informal way to meet and greet families.(angela.lister@usd428.net)
- Open House Ice Cream Social – This is an event that kicks off our school year. STUCO and teachers serve and meet and great parents that come. It is held on the front lawn of our school so people driving by will wonder what is going on, or are reminded to stop in.
- Schools assign one adult to welcome parent to a "team" (SIT, 504, IEP) meeting and go to meeting place and then others join and leave meeting with parent.
- At our school the teachers (and other staff) go to the student's house to meet the student before the first day of school.
- Open House (Aug./Sept.) – Parents are invited to come meet their student's teachers. Sandwiches and drinks provided for families, as well, as babysitting services for younger kids by the student leadership team. (knance@usd353.com)
- Porch Visits – staff members from child's school make a visit to introduce themselves and share general information about communications, programs, and expectations. (diane.gross@usd480.net)
- School Display Case – Students get to be "Bullpup of the Day" where they bring items in the display case to share with all plus family members get to eat lunch and have recess with student.
- PTO provides treats for all elementary events (nelson@usd298.com)

Standard 2: Communicating Effectively

Families and staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.

- Having the students make their own invitation to parent-teacher conference.
- School develops a "Hot List" of parents that need phone calls as reminders to attend special events (McDermott Elem. – laura.cano@usd480.net)
- Transition Nights – Elementary to middle & middle to HS. One for parents and students – further opportunities for students – i.e. visit new school, tour, meet teachers (dibberng@usd450.net)
- Staff are asked to communicate positive experiences with families – they don't just call when student is in trouble (Burlingame Jr./Sr. High)
- Translating documents for languages present in the district (mhayes@cgrove417.org)
- Special Ed. Day School – daily cards go home with positive/negative comments regarding students' behavior/academics. Parents must sign (rkimbrel@mcsec.org)

Standard 3: Support Student Success

Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

- Red Chair – Red metal chairs are in classrooms as an invitation for parents to observe their student's lessons. (jfarka@usd259.net)
- Special Education Day School – we have a Christmas program in which all students participate. Invite parents to come and stay for lunch. End of year Awards – each student earns an academic/behavior award & a fun award – example: "highest math student" & "wears most bling" awards. We have done plays, talent shows, etc. Invite parents to come! These student often are not part of these events in home school (rkimbrel@mcsec.org)

Standard 4: Speaking Up For Every Child

Families are empowered to be advocates for their own children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

Standard 5: Sharing Power

Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices and programs.

Standard 6: Collaborating with Community

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services and civic participation.

- Principal for a Day – invite business/community members and/or parents to shadow the principal for a day to get a better understanding of how the school operates (jnoble@ksde.org)