Better School-to-Home Communication Starting in Middle School Will Benefit Student Academic Performance, Parents Say

96% of parents with a child in grades K-12 view parent involvement as a key factor in student achievement; 95% think achievement would improve if there was better communication between school and home

SUMMARY

A recent independent survey of U.S. parents with a child currently in grades K-12 showed that parents are seeking ways to become more involved in their child's progress at school through the use of technology. Parents widely view their involvement as a key factor in a child's overall achievement and indicated a strong desire to be more informed about overall progress, especially grades, in order to positively impact their child's school performance. The survey revealed that middle school is a critical time for schools to give parents the opportunity to get more involved—the impact being better academic performance later on in high school. Parents see the benefits of better communication, specifically online

communication, as affording a student earlier intervention to solve problems and as a motivating factor for their child to take on more responsibility with respect to the outcome of his or her academic performance.

ADDITIONAL KEY FINDINGS

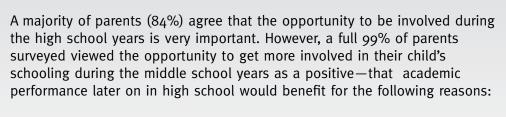
If given the opportunity, 96% of parents would like to take advantage of online access to their child's grades and homework, as well as to communicate with teachers—94% believe this would have a positive impact on student achievement.

93% of parents think their child will take more personal responsibility knowing their parents are actively involved in their schooling; 88% think their child is likely to try harder academically as a result of online access to his or her performance information.

Benefits to parents associate most with having online access to their child's school performance records:

- Improved communication to minimize surprises – 87%
- Academic improvement 75%
- Increased student responsibility 66%

About the Survey – The survey of 548 U.S. parents, age 30 and older, with one or more children in grades K-12, was conducted by independent online service Zoomerang. Complete survey results are available at http://www.pearsonschoolsystem.com/survey



Earlier intervention to mitigate problems

75%

Increased achievement

72% Better study habits

71%

Improved collaboration between teachers and students

