

Connecting with Families of Children with Special Needs

Complete 10 of these tasks and then bring this page to the Family Resource Center (410 E. 1st St.) to pick a prize and receive a special wish bracelet!

- Send an email checking on how a parent is doing if you hear they are sick or needing support in some way
- Invite parents to read a book to the class or share a talent they have with the class
- Meet with parents in-person or virtually before an ARD
- Meet with parents in-person or virtually after an ARD (to check on understanding, answer questions, etc.)
- Encourage families to attend a school-wide event with you
- Encourage families to attend a community event with you
- Tour the Family Resource Center with a family who's never been
- Volunteer for an event at the Family Resource Center (and receive non-contract hours!)
- Email a parent to tell them something great that their child did and include a picture
- Take a great picture of a child, frame it and send it home
- Send a picture of you and a child hugging or working on something together to a parent
- Give a parent a phone call to let them know about a change of behavior or eating habits or anything that may concern you.
- Send an email to let a parent know when their child has made a new friend or had fun with another student
- Invite parents to be "room parents" or ask for any other help or any way they can support the classroom and be involved
- For families coming from other countries, ask them questions about their culture and ask them to share facts, food or anything that will teach you or the class
- Encourage therapists or administrators to connect with families in a special way that will work with their schedule
- Share a new way you've learned to help a child be successful in school with the family
- Schedule a home visit to meet the child's family, dog, etc.
- For a full school week, return every parent email within 24 hours
- Smile before calling a parent or answering the phone when a parent calls
- Host a play-date at a local park or a family event so families can meet each other
- Host a dinner night at a restaurant (get a private room or give the restaurant a heads-up and get permission / discount, etc.)
- Host a family movie outing at one of the free Studio Movie Grill Special Needs screenings in the Colony
- Attend a child's special event
- Attend an event at the Family Resource Center and invite all of your families to meet you there
- Drop off balloons or a card at a child's house for their birthday or if they're sick
- Accept parents' compliments and hold onto them in your heart - they REALLY mean it with all of THEIR hearts when they compliment you