**What is parent involvement?**

In the Child-Parent Center pre-kindergarten through third grade (CPC P-3) model, parent involvement and engagement is reciprocal, collaborative interaction between the school and family. It’s facilitated through multifaceted activities to mobilize community resources and engage parents and family members.¹

**What are the goals of parent involvement?**

- Encourage parent involvement and engagement by leading a comprehensive, menu-based parent program that addresses the needs of the families to strengthen the school-family partnership.²
- Increase continued parent involvement and engagement in children’s education throughout preschool-3rd grade.³
- Provide support for educational attainment, career opportunities, and personal development for parents and family members.⁴

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**CPC P-3 Parent Involvement Requirements**

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**CPC P-3 Parent Involvement Process**

1. **School-Home Agreement**
   - Family Needs Assessment
   - Center Needs Assessment
   - Asset Mapping
   - Parent Involvement Plan

2. **Monthly Parent Involvement Activity Calendar**
   - Online portfolio of family participation
   - School involvement
   - Child development and parenting
   - Language, math, and science
   - Health, safety, and nutrition
   - Career, education, and personal development
   - Field trips and community events
   - Home parent involvement

3. **Parent Survey**
   - Teacher Survey
   - Parent Resource Teacher

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“If parents feel comfortable coming into the school, talking with their teachers and their principals, they’re going to feel connected to their child’s education.”

— Lisa Levy
Former Head Teacher

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[www.humancapitalrc.org](http://www.humancapitalrc.org)
What is the menu-based system?
The menu-based system of parent involvement provides a variety of opportunities to reflect the needs of all families in the school community. In the CPC P-3 program, parents assist in classrooms and attend school events and workshops to learn helpful activities and games to enhance their children’s education at home.

Some examples of these activities, events, and workshops include:
- Reading to small groups in the classroom
- Attending GED workshops
- Participating in resume writing workshops
- Attending child development events
- Participating in nutrition workshops
- Attending financial workshop events
- Participating in parent reading groups
- Attending parent advisory council meetings

Parent Involvement Research
Early parent involvement sets the stage for a cyclic process of continued parent involvement, student motivation, and school achievement from preschool throughout sixth grade.  

Participation in 5 or more parent activities during preschool and kindergarten were associated with a three-month increase in kindergarten reading achievement.  

For every year of high parent involvement, high school drop-out decreased by 21% and the likelihood of high school completion increased by 32 percent.  

Visit z.umn.edu/parentinvolvement to watch a video on the importance of parent involvement in CPC P-3.

References