

## **Prevent Child Abuse, New Jersey**

### ***Parent Involvement in Education: The Key to Future Success***

October 2010

- Mother, the Brown family: It's so important to get involved early with the college planning and we really started in freshman year just supporting her along the way and really thinking about what she want to do.
- Daughter, the Brown family: With my mom being more involved, helped me feel more prepared and ready for the college experience.
- Mother, the Dellanno family: It's important to go through your child's backpack everyday so you learn about important things that are going on at the school and what your child learned today.
- Daughter, the Dellanno family: Today I learned a lot about New Jersey.
- Father, the Shaw family: Report card time is always a great time to sit down with your child and see how well they have progressed throughout the year and see what supports you can provide for them.
- Narrator: Decades of research show that when parents are involved in their children's schools and education, these children have higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates, better school attendance, increased motivation, better self-esteem, lower rates of suspension, decreased use of drugs and alcohol, and fewer instances of violent behavior. School-aged children spend 70% of their waking hours, including weekends and holidays, outside of school. It's no surprise that the family can have a dramatic impact on a child's learning and academic success. In fact, the greater the involvement, the greater the impact on a child's achievement. Research has shown that family participation in education was a better predictor of student's academic success, more than their socioeconomic status.
- Jennifer Lugo: Children whose parents are involved in their education are twice as likely to succeed in school. From there, their potential is enormous.

Narrator: Family engagement is a shared responsibility among families, schools, communities, and organizations. Being involved can mean many things. It includes: making sure that homework gets done, being an active parent of the school community, and being an engaged partner in a child's education.

Mother, the Brown family: As a single mom, I'm really busy with work, helping kids out with their homework, afterschool programs, but I like to make sure that I meet with their teachers at least once a month to make sure they have the support they need in school as well.

Narrator: Parents, educators, administrators, community leaders, and local child advocates must all work together to help children realize their full academic potential. The New Jersey State Parent Information and Resource Center [NJPIRC] leads parent engagement across the state. We help families become fully supportive of their child's education and learning. We work with schools, families, and community networks so that all children become strong learners and succeed in school—particularly, if they live in communities with low-performing schools. NJPIRC offers services that ultimately help children succeed. We do this by hosting workshops that help parents understand and participate in their school system, developing home visiting and parent education programs that teach families about development and learning early, especially during the pre-school years, which set the foundation for future success, training and guiding schools to develop effective ways to involve parents in the educational process, educating parents, families, and educators through trainings, workshops, podcast, webinars, and other awareness events. Visit us online at [www.njpirc.org](http://www.njpirc.org) or visit prevent child abuse New Jersey online at [www.preventchildabuseNJ.org](http://www.preventchildabuseNJ.org) to learn how you can create childhoods that keep children safe, healthy, nurtured, and encouraged to learn.

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Video participants:

Mother, the Brown family  
Daughter, the Brown family  
Mother, the Dellano family  
Daughter, the Dellano family  
Jennifer Lugo  
Father, the Shaw family