



Top Ten

Ideas for Connections with Parents

1. Open the library on Back to School Night and during special school events – think about a “bonus” checkout if your library has a maximum check out limit.
2. Grab the microphone at Back to School Night and any other special events and introduce yourself. Invite everyone to stop by the library and that you are looking for volunteers who love books and kids!
3. Look for opportunities to host parent volunteers and advertise. They won’t come if you don’t ask.
4. Invite your local public librarian to Back to School Night to promote September’s “Library Card Sign-Up Month” (or any special event) to encourage home reading connections.
5. Update your school library website with a link just for parents – include schedules and directions for home access to the catalog and databases.
6. Create a brochure of library services to go home to with each student.
7. Create a “Birthday Club” shelf of new titles that parents can purchase in honor of their child. Put a special book plate in the front of the book and send it home with the child as the first person to check it out.
8. Invite the PTO/PTA or Boosters to use the library for monthly meetings (and be sure to attend one or two and start networking!)
9. Contact parent group leadership and ask for time at an upcoming meeting to promote the school library and its’ programs. Set out new books for display and present PSLA’s Parent Advocacy Slide Show.
10. Publish information about the school library in building and district newsletters to showcase the great things happening with kids, resources and learning.