

**Community Conversation  
Independence Elementary School  
February 12, 2015**

**Crossroads**

Highly varying perspective on technology

So many changing expectations  
Hard to keep up and evolve education at same time

What next steps will the tests tell us?

Time toward shifting to mandates  
New told requirements  
Also puts parents on edge

How to get more parents engaged and how to help

RE: Tests – How can parents help?

Looks Like {  
Help everyone R.E.L.A.X  
How to communicate with child  
Build child's self-value beyond test  
Only one day

Call principal  
Get informed/LEARN  
Move to modernization

More efficient communication  
Too much can get ignored  
Style of communication  
Bullets (Quick and Easy)  
Different avenues of communication  
Multiple schools per family  
How to coordinate

↓  
Communication issues go beyond education

Administration/Teachers/Staff	Parents
Concise	Access to... Comfortable to...
Seek to understand...not anger	Consistent (regular schedule)
Understand teachers' situation	Brevity – Extra stands out
More Q's	Knowledge of calendar
Less email	Special issues (lead me)
More personal	Layout information rather than call
	Map to find information
	Understanding – Regular language

Parents and Partners = C

But very high or very low

Begin and  
end year



Middle

Dad and Mom Breakfast

Why?

2 Working parents

Other kids

How to connect – Use with kids

At home partners In building communication In building as volunteers Partner with teachers

How to be a parent

How to build a bond

Role of PTA?

More meaningful conversation at all meetings/events

Cross parent group conversation/support

Different orientation format

Free up teachers time to.....

All teachers/parents plan better

Changing our behavior to build bonds

How to ID authority/position

Family movie night – With staff and kids

Offsite PTA meetings

Modify the Mom and Dad Breakfasts

Greeters in parking lot

Welcome new families