



Parent/Teacher Home Visits: Forging Partnerships That Increase Student Success

For 15 years, the Parent/Teacher Home Visit Project nonprofit collaboration (jointly governed by union, district and community members) has created stronger home/school partnerships that support students and transform schools. Home visits lead to increased parent involvement, reduced disciplinary problems, improved attendance, and increased student achievement. Home visits also lead to trusting, respectful relationships between parents and teachers, creating the foundation for understanding and cooperation between home and school that is critical to every student's success. Families report greater understanding of graduation requirements, student status and available site based resources - if needed. Educators report greater understanding and connection to their entire school community and each student's individual learning needs. Studies of successful home visit pilots have documented the many benefits of home visits, including:

Home Visits Create Partnerships:

- Increasing parental involvement
- Developing trust and understanding among parents and teachers
- Identifying common goals for students
- Helping parents learn how to better help their children

Home Visits Improve School Climate:

- Reduced absenteeism
- Fewer suspensions and expulsions
- Improved communication between home and school
- Shared accountability

Home Visits Increase Student Achievement:

- Improved test scores
- Higher school-wide API scores
- Improved accountability for students, parents, and teachers

Home visits work and schools and districts in over a dozen states that have adopted our model. Across the country, in every community adapting our model, the following guiding principles are present:

- Visits last 30 minutes and are voluntary for everyone
- Educators are trained and compensated and go out in pairs.
- All students (or a cross section) of students are visited (no negative targeting).
- Visits focus on shared vision and values for success of students

Home visits work in urban, suburban and rural communities. Home visits work for families. They work for educators. And, most importantly, they work for students.

For more information about Home Visits contact: Go to www.pthvp.org. You can also contact Sheryl Ellsworth, USBE Parent Engagement Specialist, sheryl.ellsworth@schools.utah.gov 801.538.7733