



Shannon LaFargue, PhD, Superintendent

Dear Family,

**November is National Family Engagement Month.** This gives us an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of family and community engagement in education and the positive impact it can have on student achievement.

Did you know one of the most important ways to help children be prepared for school is simply to talk with them frequently? Research supports adult and child communication as one of the top literacy skill development strategies. If children can match their emotions to words and express them clearly to adults and children alike, they will be more likely to resolve their problems through discussion. Talking to your children so that they can share their hopes, dreams and fears will mean that you gain a more in-depth understanding of your child.

Please keep this conversation card with you in the car as a tool to help you start the conversation. Ask your child about their day at school. Let them know you value school and education, which encourages them to value it too.

Thank you for allowing us to be your partner in the education of your child(ren).

Sincerely,

Loree L. Smith,  
Family Engagement Coordinator

Cc: Shannon LaFargue, PhD, Superintendent  
Dr. Jason VanMetre, Chief Academic Officer  
John W. Spikes, Director Federal Programs

*Building Foundations for the Future*