Module Two
Parent Communication
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Overview:
Parent communication is essential to create a positive environment for teachers and students. Too often little time is devoted to learning strategies that can assist in making parent communications the best that they can be.

Objectives for this module include:

Take stock of your expectations for family involvement and consider your students’ families’ expectations of you.

Re-examine the communication you have had with students’ families during this school year.

Determine the strategies that are most effective for communicating with your population of families.

Identify community resources available to support teachers to connect with the families and communities.

Design a communication plan to implement through the school
SECTION THREE: Community Connections

Time: 45 minutes

Materials Needed: Community Mapping Table

Activity: Making Learning Relevant to Your Community: Under the direction of the facilitator and master teachers community representatives will be invited to participate and share in this meeting. These activities will vary by school and district.

Some Suggested Activities for this Section:

1. Community Mapping

By mapping the community or communities in which students live, a teacher can learn more about the opportunities and limitations the community provides. Community maps can take many forms, from a simple ‘ride through’ to a detailed inventory of resources.

Attached is a community mapping data collection sheet used by Dr. Kathy Fox in her research. While her research focuses on the literacy resources available in communities, other resources can be brainstormed and included to assess science literacy, social service support, or recreation.

To follow up on data collection, participants print a map of the community and note the designated resources at: Goggle.com/maps

Link to full article by Dr. Kathy Fox:
http://goo.gl/jrLwN4

Use Facilitator Resource: Community-Mapping.pdf