

## Major Factors of Parent Involvement

- Parents' beliefs about what is important, necessary and permissible for them to do with and on behalf of their children.
- The extent to which parents believe that they can have a positive influence on their children's education.
- Parents' perceptions that their children and school want them to be involved.

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## Let's Get Started!

### Did You Know?

The Michigan Department of Education cites research about parent involvement in children's education:

- 86% of the general public believes that support from parents is the most important way to improve schools.
- school activities to develop and maintain partnerships with families decline with each grade level.
- most students at all levels want their families to be more knowledgeable partners about schooling.
- decades of research show that when parents are involved students have
  - higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates.
  - better school attendance.
  - increased motivation.
  - better self esteem.

### Parents as Partners

Research shows that "the more intensely parents are involved, the more beneficial the achievement effects" for the students. And "the more parents partici-



pate in schooling, in a sustained way, at every level — in advocacy, decision-making and oversight roles, as fundraisers and boosters, as volunteers and as home teachers — the better for student achievement," according

to reports from the Michigan Department of Education. Therefore, the aim of this organization is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools in support of students.

### The Memphis Mission

For quite some time the staff at MHS has expressed the desire to communicate with and involve parents more in our building. We've made some effort in this area including community meetings on parenting and social issues, a website, social networking links, and online resources. But we still need more. To that end, the idea of establishing a formal parent-teacher organization came to mind.

## We Need You!

### Getting Started

This partnership is in the planning stages. The vision is to establish an ever-growing network of parents and teachers involved in the education decision making and support of students at MHS. And based on ideas from state and national PTA

groups and local school organizations, the partnership would organize a variety of activities such as recruiting and coordinating volunteers, providing special recognition at awards ceremonies or through other activities, organizing parent education events, supporting existing

student groups, planning teacher appreciation activities, acting as liaison to parents and the community at large, getting involved in special events at each of the grade levels, and much more.



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**Parent Teacher Partnership**

If you are interested in joining this group, send an email message with your contact information to Elizabeth Phillips ([ephillips@memphisk12.org](mailto:ephillips@memphisk12.org)).

Together, we can build a fantastic network of support for each other and for our students.



# Join Today!

## More Reasons to Join

- ◆ An exciting opportunity to get involved with a new group in it's earliest stages.
- ◆ A chance to meet with other parents and community members.
- ◆ An opportunity to share your time, talents, and ideas.
- ◆ A way to enhance students' lives during their time at MHS.
- ◆ A venue that can provide numerous resources and experiences for all those that are involved.



Every child needs someone who cares. Someone to make sure they eat healthy, stay safe, have the right school supplies, get enough sleep and exercise. Someone who will speak out on their behalf and on behalf of all children. Children also need someone to help them learn and to help them love to learn—both in and out of school and for the rest of their lives. Children who learn are children who succeed. And our world's future depends on the success of every child.

*Jan Harp Domene  
Past PTA National President*