

Frequently Asked Questions

Supporting Positive Behaviors at School and at Home:
Strategies to Help Reduce Interfering Behaviors, Part 1

What are the best ways to handle parent/child not participating?

Some suggestions include,

- Maintain contact through a variety of methods (email, phone, text, mail) to determine what challenges the family is facing, such as internet access, device access, technical assistance, etc. When you find out, problem solve with them to fix the issues;
- Try to set up communication with the student and have some conversation about what is stopping them from attending and then problem solve;
- Offer work through packets to go along with actual books; parents can pick up or see if the school can mail or drop off the materials;
- Clarify attendance policies, grading, and what is required to move to the next grade or to graduate;
- Evaluate the work load. It may be too much for both the student and/or family to manage during these times.
- Consider the following questions: Is the home environment conducive to family participating or is there so much going on that it is difficult to get any work done? Are there other stressors that are causing the family and student to not focus on the academics, like no work, food, etc. Is the parent/s working out of the home and the children are left at home to manage themselves? If this is the case, the more foundational needs should be met before placing academic demands on the youth/family.
- Please note:
 - o Some districts have established a parent University where they have a training for the parents to learn how everything online works.
 - o There are districts that have a central tracking system for any contact with students and families. In turn, teachers know that there's a place where data is collected on who needs to be reached out due to lack of communication.