At Community Outreach Academy, we believe that together with the parents we can make a difference. The relationship between the student and the teacher is the most significant predictor of student learning. A student who knows that the parent communicates on a regular basis with their teacher, and who knows that their parents trust the teacher, will likely put more effort into school. Good communication between teachers and parents doesn't just happen. It requires parent involvement and communication skills. It is realistic to assume that there will be a day when COA will finally get all parents to come to school for conferences, serve on parent committees, and actively participate in their children’s education. As a school, we are taking steps to ensure that all parents receive positive communication from school on a regular basis. In our newsletter, parents will find many suggestions how they can increase parental involvement.

- COA school has an open-door policy. Parents are able to come to school any time they have an issue and get it resolved.
- Each day teachers and administrative staff greet families during student arrivals and dismissals.
- COA teachers are sending two positive notes home with their students each week. Each COA parent will receive several positive notes during the school year.
- COA administrators are committing to placing one positive phone call home as well as one phone call a week to a parent of a student who is experiencing academic or behavioral difficulties.
- COA’s Staff Affirmation Boards are created and displayed at all site buildings for staff affirmations. All staff members and parents can write thank-you cards or notes to someone who has helped them.
- Parents may contact their child’s teacher to volunteer in the classroom or can ask site managers about volunteer opportunities at COA’s school sites.
- This year especially, we need five (5) parents of our English Learners to serve on the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) and we are looking for four (4) parents to serve on the School Site Council (SSC).
- Every month, 30 minutes prior to School Site Council, I will conduct parent coffees at the Dudley building. I will use these opportunities to have unstructured dialogues with parents on topics of their choosing. Our first SSC Meeting is scheduled for October 14th. Please feel welcomed, and see you soon!

Larissa Gonchar, Principal

September, 2014

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► Helping in classrooms
► Yard/recess duty
► Helping in the lunchroom
► Working as a crossing guard
► Helping in the library
► Helping with special events
► Helping in the office
► After school program help
► Field trips
► Before/after school monitors, etc.
► Donate books, art materials, musical instruments…

Thank you for your continued support of COA!

COA Parent Volunteers On-line Track System.
OurVolts is an online tool that is used by our attendance clerks to log hours and record data.

www.ourvolts.com/site/community-outreach-academy-elementary-school

Top Volunteers in the last 6 weeks

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