

Community culture helps kids learn.

Common community goals help kids learn.

1. Kids spend 80–87% of their total waking hours outside of school.
2. Kids have a wide range of learning supports:
 - a. Families, including extended families and close friends;
 - b. Early childhood programs and caregivers;
 - c. Schools;
 - d. Out-of-school programs (recreation, 4-H, Scouts, museums);
 - e. Community organizations (faith, health and social services, businesses);
 - f. Higher education.
3. Kids do better in school when community organizations coordinate activities with each other to have the most impact on student learning.

A family-friendly community culture helps kids learn.

1. Kids who live in communities where people are committed to each other over time and pass on what it means to be a good person are less likely to be at-risk as learners.
2. Kids who live in nurturing communities that communicate high developmentally appropriate expectations for youth are less likely to be at risk as learners.
3. Kids are less likely to be at risk as learners when they live in communities where:
 - a. Kids are treated as valuable contributors to the community by all citizens.
 - b. Kids have opportunities to interact meaningfully with people of all ages.
 - c. Kids' well-being is an on-going deliberate focus.

Funding provided in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Parent Information Resource Center program, under grant #84.310A and Iowa Award #U310A60012.

... and justice for all

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PROVEN PRACTICES

for communities to support kids as learners

1. Families do many things to help their kids be successful. Communities that provide knowledge and skills for families to encourage their kids as learners increase student achievement.
2. Communities that focus on helping kids develop specific knowledge and skills have a greater effect on school achievement than communities that provide more general forms of educational support.
3. Kids' learning is enhanced when adults continually communicate with each other and provide kids with consistent guidance and support.
4. To successfully connect with families and communities, school programs invite involvement, are welcoming, and address specific needs of kids and families.
5. Kids learn more at school when supported by parents, school staff, and community members.
6. When parents share ideas with each other on how to help their kids at home, they create support for all kids.

PROVEN PRACTICES

for families to support kids as learners

1. Good nutrition helps kids learn.
2. Physical activity helps kids learn.
3. Sleep helps kids learn.
4. Routines at home help kids learn.
5. Learning at home helps kids learn at school.
6. Love and limits help kids thrive and learn.

PROGRAM PRINCIPLES

*the power of one • all families have strengths
• community culture affects the potential
of every child • communities with common goals
strengthen student learning*



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