

## **FAST FACTS: Helping Your Child Succeed**

Parents are their child's first teacher. You play a vital role in helping your children succeed in school by supporting and reinforcing what your child learns in the classroom at home. When parents show an interest in their children's school work, they send a message that learning is important.

### **Here are a few tips for parents:**

- **Set a bedtime that gives your child eight or more hours of sleep at night.** It is difficult for children to do their best at school if they are tired.
- **Make sure your child is on time for school everyday.** Instruction begins when the school bell rings each morning. If your child misses part of the day, he or she will miss part of that day's lessons.
- **Make sure your child is ready to learn everyday.** Keep a supply of papers, pens, and pencils at home so your child can use them for homework and bring them to school.
- **Read!** Encourage your children to read everyday, and let your children see you reading.
- **Limit television viewing and time playing video games.**
- **Stay in touch with your child's teachers.** Parents are welcome in every school. Make an appointment to visit or talk with your child's teachers.
- **Keep track of assignments.** Ask your child what he or she learned in school each day. Check to see that homework is completed.
- **Use after-school time productively.** Find out about after-school homework programs, tutoring, recreational activities and other services offered at school and in the community.
- **Take advantage of our city.** Take your children to local museums, historical sites, parks, libraries, and performance theaters to encourage an enjoyment and love of learning.
- **Teach your children to be good citizens.** Encourage social values such as responsibility, honesty, helpfulness, cooperation, sharing, and concern for others. Encourage work values such as effort, persistence, and initiative. Let your children see you doing the same.