

Establishing a Collaborative Team



Activity: *Doing an Inventory* - In parent/educator teams or small groups read through the checklist and select something you have done and give an example. Allow each person to speak for 1-2 minutes. If time permits allow each participate to select another item and give a second example.

Collaboration Checklist for Educators

- ✓ I believe that families are my equal, and are experts on their children.
- ✓ I actively involve families in all team decisions.
- ✓ I meet at times and places convenient for the family.
- ✓ I recognize and promote the variety of strengths of the student and family.

Collaboration Checklist for Families

- ✓ I believe I am an equal partner with educators and do my share of problem solving and planning to help my child.
- ✓ I clearly express my child's needs in a manner that is assertive.
- ✓ I treat educators as individuals and avoid letting past negative experiences get in the way of a good working relationship.
- ✓ I communicate quickly with educators when significant changes and events occur.

Collaboration Checklist for All Team Members

- ✓ I express hope through my attitude and words, avoid blaming and stating absolutes like "always" and "never".
- ✓ I commit sufficient time and energy to discussion and plan development and monitoring.
- ✓ I distinguish between fact and opinion when discussing academic and behavioral challenges.
- ✓ I follow through and complete tasks in a timely fashion, including keeping the lines of communication open.