

I. REFLECTION ON HOME–SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

We recognize the importance of home–school connections and purposely build trusting relationships with the parents/guardians of our students. This reflection is to help us refine the ideas and practices that support this belief.

Rate yourself on a scale of 0 to 5, with 5 representing the goal of consistent application of this skill or idea.

Building trusting relationships with parents is a priority with me.	_____
I ask parents to tell me about their children and any special hopes or goals they have for this year.	_____
I quickly learn the names of my students and their family members.	_____
I communicate frequently with parents.	_____
I return calls/e-mails promptly.	_____
I make 2–5 purely positive communications about my students' learning and behavior each week.	_____
I go out of my way to build relationships with struggling parents.	_____
I invite parents to do meaningful volunteer work in my classroom.	_____
I have a lending library available to parents.	_____
I carefully prepare for meetings/conferences with parents.	_____
In meetings with parents, I have learned to listen more than I talk.	_____
I offer advice or solutions only after parents are in a calm, problem-solving state of mind.	_____
I try to have interactions with parents in which they have a positive emotional experience that builds closer ties with our school.	_____