

Brooke Slater

Edu 413

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Introduction

Hello! I am Miss Brooke Slater and I am the classroom teacher in _____ grade. _____
_____ is our special education teacher in _____ Elementary School.

Other professionals in our school include: _____, _____, _____
_____, _____, _____, _____.

Section 1: Parenting

I have chosen to create a survey to determine what parents in my school will need. Because I am not a parent myself, I have no idea what parents like and dislike about school. I am not sure what they do not know and what they want to know. Because of this, I think a survey would help me determine where to go and how to help the parents I will work with. I will give this survey to parents to complete before school begins, probably during parent night. Then, I will find a way to accommodate to the needs of the parents based on their answers on the survey. Rather than using paper, I can create a free online survey using Survey Monkey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com>

Information to create this survey was retrieved from the links below.

<http://www.parentinghorizons.com/workshops/parents?page=1>

http://www.esc16.net/users/0020/Link_Files/Survey%20for%20Par%20Inv.pdf

<http://www.imagineclayavenue.org/parent-needs-survey.html>

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeVCqGm6dmrEQmYEe3DFsmvoQ5WczurWSjHCD8fsj1w-A355w/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Parent Survey

Dear Parent:

Parent-teacher relationships are vital to a successful education of your child. Parents know more about their child than anyone else. Because of this, I want to build a positive relationship with you, so we can help your child be successful and reach his or her highest potential. To begin, I invite you to take the survey below. This survey will tell me what you need to know and would like me to do to help you with throughout this school year. Thank you for your time.

Please fill out your contact information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

1. What questions do you have about me, the classroom your child will be in, or the school in general? _____

2. How do you prefer to receive information?

- Phone Call
- Email
- Facebook or class website
- Newsletters
 - Weekly
 - Bi-Weekly
 - Monthly
- School Website
- Flyers

3. What time of day works best for you to attend school events?

- Before School
- After School
- Evening
- Weekends

4. What is your biggest obstacle for participation in school events?

- Time of meetings/events
- Work Schedule
- Transportation
- Other: _____

5. If transportation was provided, would you be more likely to attend?

- Yes

- No
6. Would you be interested in receiving information about helping your child learn at home?
- Yes
- No
7. If you selected "yes" on number 6, please select any of the topics below you are interested in. (Mark all that apply)
- Improving reading skills
- Improving math skills
- Helping with homework
- Helping your child form positive friendships
- Teaching kids good values
- Helping children resolve conflicts on their own
- Improving parent-teacher communication
- Keeping kids safe: Discussing personal safety and increasing awareness
- Peer pressure/ bullying
- Study skills
- Preparing children for standardized tests
- How to handle parent-teacher conferences
- Nutrition
- Other: _____
8. If you selected "yes" on number 6, please select the best ways for you to receive the information on number 7.
- Group discussion
- DVD Series
- Seminar/lecture
- Check out materials at your convenience
- Email
- Other: _____
9. Do you feel you are being heard and your opinion is being taken into account?
- Yes
- No
- Not Sure
10. Please list any suggestions for improvement you have for me, my classroom, or the school system. _____
- _____
- _____

Thank You for your time!

Section 2: Communicating

For communication, I will send home or attach documents on the class site depending on the event. Because I do not know much about the school I will be teaching in, it is difficult to think of the curriculum, the philosophy, and other information regarding the school. I decided the most reasonable communication to send home is “how parents can be involved in student activities.” I will create a template of a document I would send home or post on the website regarding this topic.

Information used to create this document was found from the following links.

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/3201/16-ways-parents-can-be-involved-in-the-classr/>

<http://brookside.nebo.edu/sites/brookside.nebo.edu/files/Recommended%20math%20websites%20for%20parents%20and%20students.pdf>.

Ways to be Involved in Your Child's Education

- ◆ Read with your child every night
- ◆ Work on writing with your child
- ◆ Work on math practice with your child
- ◆ Work on science at home with your child
- ◆ Teach your child about your family history and work on Social Studies with him or her
- ◆ Participate in school events
- ◆ Volunteer to help at school events
- ◆ Volunteer to chaperone at school field trips
- ◆ Speak to the class about your career, hobby, or ethnic traditions
- ◆ Attend school board meetings
- ◆ Attend parent-teacher conferences
- ◆ Make sure your child completes his or her homework
- ◆ Help your child prepare for tests

Section 3: Learning at Home

The third section is focused on how to help children learn more at home. I will create a document to send to parents so they can work on practicing their skills. This document will be sent at the beginning of the year so parents can become familiar with them. Hopefully, it will increase student's knowledge in the classroom within all of the subjects. The links for this section are found within the document below.

The information on the importance of reading was found with this link.

<http://www.readingbyphonics.com/early-start/why-should-children-read.html#.WLC7BRiZNhA>

Websites to Increase Your Child's Learning at Home

◆ Reading (Why your child should read every day)

- It expands vocabulary
- It improves fluency and comprehension
- It leads to reading success in the future
- It builds independence and self confidence
- It teaches about the world
- It teaches about safety
- It increases knowledge
- It enhances imagination
- It helps for relaxation
- It improves writing skills
- It teaches grammar, sentence structure, and communication skills

◆ Writing Practice

- <http://www.funenglishgames.com/writinggames.html>
- <https://kids.usa.gov/play-games/reading-and-writing/index.shtml>
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/writing>
- <http://www.learninggamesforkids.com/graphic-organizers/writing-graphic-organizers.html>

◆ Math practice

- <http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/math.htm>
- <http://illuminations.nctm.org>
- <http://nlvm.usu.edu>
- <http://www.mathplayground.com/>
- <http://www.gamequarium.org/dir/Gamequarium/Math/>
- <http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/>
- <http://www.funbrain.com/>

◆ Science Practice

- <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/science.htm>
- <http://pbskids.org/games/science/>
- <https://kids.usa.gov/teens/play-games/science/index.shtml>
- http://www.learninggamesforkids.com/science_games.html
- <http://www.knowledgeadventure.com/subject/science-games/>

◆ Social Studies Practice

- http://www.primarygames.com/social_studies.php
- <http://mrnussbaum.com/social-studies-games/>
- <https://kids.usa.gov/teens/play-games/social-studies/index.shtml>
- http://www.learninggamesforkids.com/social_studies_games.html
- <http://pbskids.org/games/social-studies/>

Section 4: Volunteering

Volunteering is important for parents, but can be very difficult due to busy work schedules. To help with that situation, I will create a form to give to parents at the beginning of the year. They can fill it out based on what is easiest for them. Then, I will contact them when I need volunteers based on how they fill out the form.

The information on this form was found from the link below.

<http://www.chesapeakefamily.com/education/school/7935-how-busy-parents-can-volunteer-in-schools>

Help! We Need Volunteers!

Hello! Our classroom is always looking for volunteers. I understand many of you have jobs and busy schedules, so I ask if you have any open opportunities, please fill them out on this form. We would LOVE to have you. Thank you for your time! Feel free to contact me at (701) 928-0882 and email me at brooke.r.slater@gmail.com

Name: _____

Student's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

When is the best time to contact you? _____

What day of the week? _____

Best time of the day? _____

Volunteer interests: (mark all that apply)

- Chaperoning field trips
- Reading to the class
- Helping with class parties
- Helping put together projects
- Other: _____

Questions or comments: _____

Section 5: Decision Making

To help parents make decisions, I will create a parent concern and complaint form. This form will help parents feel more comfortable communicating when they have an issue with something. I will advise parents to fill these out and turn them in to the school system or me. Hopefully, this will help the school system improve and the parents feel like they play an important part in the decisions of their child's education.

Session 6: Collaborating with Community

Most parents are already a part of the community, so it is difficult to involve them more. However, they may not be aware of how much their children are part of the community in elementary school. I will create a document to send home to parents or post on the class website. This document will simply state different ways the students are involved in the community throughout the school year. Parents can look at this document and message me if they have any new ideas of how their child can volunteer in the community even more.

The information for this document was found from these links.

<https://lauragraceweldon.com/2013/06/27/40-ways-kids-can-volunteer-toddler-to-teen/>

<http://www.parents.com/parenting/better-parenting/style/volunteer-with-your-kids/>

Ways Your Child will be Involved in the Community

- ◆ Rake leaves
- ◆ Pick up garbage
- ◆ Plant a garden
- ◆ Visit the nursing home
- ◆ Make cards for community businesses
- ◆ Donate food to the food pantry
- ◆ Put together community events to raise funds
- ◆ Reading time open to community members
- ◆ Learn about and practice safety in the community
- ◆ Experience visits from our community heroes
 - Firemen
 - Policemen
 - EMT

References

- Burdett, G. (2017). *16 ways parents can be involved in the classroom*. Retrieved on February 27, 2017 from <https://www.care.com/c/stories/3201/16-ways-parents-can-be-involved-in-the-classr/>.
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- Jefferson County Schools. (2017). *Parent needs survey*. Retrieved on February 25, 2017 from <http://www.jefcoed.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=111824&pageId=161962>.
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Weldon, L. G. (2013). *40 ways kids can volunteer, toddler to teen*. Retrieved on February 24, 2017 from <https://lauragracedweldon.com/2013/06/27/40-ways-kids-can-volunteer-toddler-to-teen/>.