

Keys to Success

- ◆ Take an active role in your grandchildren's education.
- ◆ Get to know the people who are teaching them.
- ◆ Take advantage of the services that your school offers to you and your family.
- ◆ Find out how you can help the school do its job.
- ◆ Work closely with your grandchildren to make sure they have all the tools they need to succeed.



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

For additional information:

Early Childhood Education/Family and Community Involvement
301-696-6864



Keys to Success adapted from "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in South Carolina"



The Frederick County public school system does not discriminate in admissions, access, treatment or employment in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability.



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren



Frederick County Public Schools
Reach. Challenge. Prepare.

Grandparents are Special Parents!



Today, more and more grandparents are raising their grandchildren. All grandparents are unique, and all are working hard to make their grandchildren's lives better and more stable.

It is important for grandparents to know that schools are very different places than when they attended...and even since their own children were in school. The curriculum has changed, and expectations are greater than ever before.

Grandparents offer important experiences and life lessons. When we work together, children gain great benefits. Please join us as key partners in educating today's children.



How You Can Help

There are many ways you can help your grandchild in school. One is by volunteering. You can **volunteer** to help:

- ◆ In your grandchild's classroom.
- ◆ With special projects in the school.

As a grandparent, if you do not have legal custody or guardianship of your grandchild, with parental consent you are still welcome to attend a teacher **conference**.

- ◆ Conferences are each fall and spring.
- ◆ You (and your family) do not need to wait until those scheduled times to meet with a teacher. Conferences are available upon request. If you are your grandchild's guardian, simply call the school to schedule time with the teacher.

Monitoring **homework** is another way you can help. Be sure to check your grandchild's backpack every day!

- ◆ Talk to your grandchild about what he or she is learning.
- ◆ Set up a routine that includes a quiet place for completing homework.
- ◆ Have school supplies available so your grandchild is ready to complete assignments.
- ◆ Offer assistance with homework when your grandchild is struggling...but don't do the homework yourself!



How We Can Help You

Frederick County Public Schools has many resources to help you throughout your grandchild's school years. Start by contacting your grandchild's school.

The annual **FCPS Calendar Handbook** is filled with important information:

- ◆ Dates schools are closed or closing early/opening late.
- ◆ Phone numbers for every school and department.
- ◆ Essential information about school transportation and meals.
- ◆ What schools do in bad weather and emergencies.
- ◆ Steps to follow for resolving concerns, student health information...and much more.



Other FCPS resources:

- ◆ *FindOutFirst*—The free FCPS e-mail and text messaging notification service will send emergency notices, calendar updates and more.
- ◆ *Fitting the Pieces Together* booklets for grades PreK—5.
- ◆ The www.FCPS.org Web site.