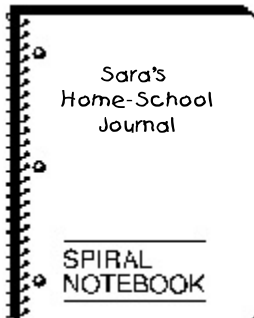


# PURE TIP SHEET The Home-School Journal

## The value of effective parent-teacher communication:

Over 30 years of research has proven beyond dispute the positive connection between parent involvement and student success. According to the National PTA, effectively engaging parents and families in the education of their children has the potential to be far more transformational than any other type of educational reform.

In cooperation with education and parent involvement professionals, the PTA developed standards for effective parent and family involvement. One of those standards specifically addresses home-school communication. It asserts that effective communication must be **two-way, regular, and meaningful**.



**The Home-School Journal:** The Home-School Journal is a model developed by PURE as one tool for effective communication between teachers and families. In this model, a simple spiral notebook goes back and forth between home and school with the student. In it, teachers and families share messages, forms, reports, and other information helpful to supporting student achievement and well-being. The Home-School Journal is not intended to be used every day but on an as-needed basis, as often as parents and teachers find it useful.

## Benefits of the Home-School Journal:

- ✓ sends a clear message that the school values parent input;
- ✓ can be used at the convenience of parents and teachers alike;
- ✓ provides timely troubleshooting before problems grow;
- ✓ offers opportunities for positive feedback for teachers, parents, and students;
- ✓ acts as a sort of "e-mail" system for schools or families without e-mail access.

For more information or to schedule a workshop or in-service on using the Home-School Journal, call PURE at 312/491-9101.

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