

So often we hear that we as parents need to 'get involved' in our child's education. We know it's true, but what does it really mean? The NEA tells us that three kinds of parental involvement are most beneficial for children: **actively organizing and monitoring a child's time, helping with homework and discussing school matters.** As parents, we ultimately set the schedule of our household. Is your schedule working for you? Make needed adjustments as early as possible in the school year; before things get too overwhelming. Your child's teacher is the best source of information about your child's homework. Many parents 'overthink' this one, and panic when a child's academics begin to outweigh their own knowledge base! Most teachers agree that they don't want parents to correct the child's work, nor should have to sit with the child to get him to have to accomplish this daily task. Oftentimes, checking that work is completed and signing the planner is enough. Perhaps most importantly, be open to discussion school matters with your child in a non-threatening way. Is your child telling you about a problem with a teacher or another student? Ask him or her "What have you already tried?" Brainstorm other possible solutions that **your child** might try before

rushing to the rescue. See the attached "Year of Parent Involvement" for more great ideas about saying involved!