

## ***Engaging Families at the Secondary Level:***

What Schools Can Do to Support Family Involvement By Chris Ferguson and Víctor Rodríguez.  
Adapt this article and relate it to special education.

What activities can special educators and administrators do to support family involvement and demonstrate that family-based processes successfully support teenage academic achievement.

Include interactions where families:

- talk often with their teenagers about school;
- help them make plans for postsecondary education; and
- keep them focused on learning and homework during the school year.

**Think in terms of special education topics, processes, policies, and procedures.**

Involvement at the secondary level is often much less visible, though just as valuable. Research (Henderson & Mapp, 2002)

**See *Engaging Families at the Secondary Level: What Schools Can Do to Support Family Involvement, A Strategy Brief of the National Center for Family and Community Connections with Schools July 2005.***