

Building Block: Education/Communication



Keep a set of learning standards in the Family Resource Library, and host monthly discussions for grade/subject level parents and teachers.

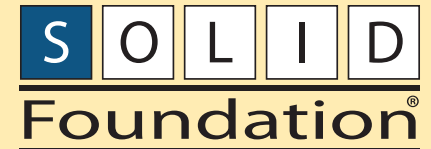
Learning standards identify what a student should know and be able to do at a specific grade level.

They are the guideposts that schools use to align what is taught (curriculum) and what is tested to determine the academic success of students. Teachers use the state learning standards to plan their lessons and define assessments that measure how students are doing relative to those learning standards. Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) measures the annual progress of each student's learning based on those standards. Pennsylvania describes its Standards Aligned System and posts the standards online at <http://www.pdesas.org/>.

Schools must communicate with parents about learning standards. The curriculum of the home can only be effective if parents are aware of the standards and know how to interpret them so they can monitor their children's progress, and help when needed.

Below are suggestions for paralleling the parent's role with the teacher's role in helping children meet standards:

- Include information about learning standards in Student Handbook.
- Discuss learning standards at the beginning of the school year at Open House.
- Put links to learning standards and information about statewide testing with explanations on school website.
- Create a "family-friendly" list of learning standards to be addressed each grading period. Share them with parents. Post them publicly in the classroom/school.
- Revise traditional report cards to reflect standards aligned curriculum.
- Review standards at parent-teacher-student conferences.



Reading • Studying • Respect • Responsibility

Solid Foundation is a school-based team process that helps:

- Strengthen family-school connections
- Engage parents in their children's learning
- Improve student, academic and social learning



Check out Section 5, pgs. 5-17; Section 4, pgs. 23-33 and Section 8, pgs. 190-204 of your Solid Foundation Resource manual.

NEED HELP?

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More information

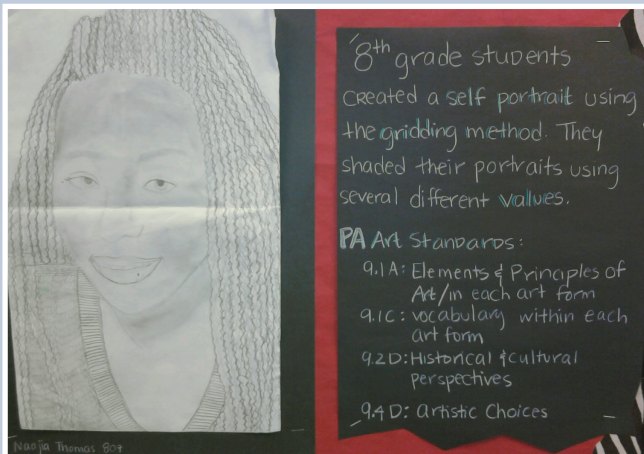
can be found at:

www.center-school.org/pa-pirc
www.adi.org/solidfoundation
www.Families-Schools.org

 CENTER FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

PA PIRC is housed at the Center for Schools and Communities
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Linking Standards with Student Learning



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