

How Can We Increase the Welcoming Environment of Our School?

Questions for Consideration	Present Conditions	Necessary or Desired Outcomes	Things to Be Done to Achieve Desired Outcomes	Notes, Questions, etc.
Do your school entrances welcome every family?				

Are entrances
clearly marked and
understandable
by all?

Are security
measures clearly
posted and
communicated to all
families?

Are your faculty,
student, and
community parking
spots well marked
and recognized
by all?

Is handicapped
parking clearly
marked?

Are handicapped
entrances accessible
and clearly
marked?

Are the parking lots
and entrances well
lit?

If graffiti appears at
your school,
is it promptly
removed?

Is the interior of your
school clean and well
kept?

Do families perceive
your school as being
safe?

Does your school
have a standing
school beautification
committee?

Does your school
building contain
understandable
directional
signs?

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Is there a comfortable reception area for families?				
Does your school have a parent/family center?				
Is your school administration approachable for all families?				
Does your school provide translation services for families who do not speak English?				
Must families ask for translation or is the service evident upon arrival?				
Does your school minimize the use of educational jargon?				
Do staff members treat families courteously?				
Does your school have an engaging website?				
Does your school use social media tools to communicate and welcome families?				

Source: Used with permission of Dr. Joni Samples, Family Friendly Schools. The chart is available for download at <http://www.drsteveconstantino.com>