

Reflection on Parent Contact Log

Kao Kue

“I do not know English so I cannot help my child. Please help my child.” I have heard this statement a few times during parent-teacher conferences and over the phone as I made student update calls. I have learned that FACTS’ parents rely on the teachers to be an advocate for their children’s education. Parents often feel disconnected, and at times, intimidated by the Western education system. They place their trust in us and hope that we are doing the best we can to educate their children.

Although building a strong relationship with parents take time, the occasional phone calls home or the quick updates when I see parents have helped to build trust between us. I haven’t been able to consistently contact all parents, but the parents who I have frequently and consistently maintain communication with appreciate the outreach. They share their concerns about their children and they often ask for recommendations and assistance. I assure my parents that I will work hard to help their children learn, but I also share my limitations as a teacher and where I need support from them as parents. I have also shared with my students the agreement I have made with their parents to help educate them. I want both students and parents to know that we are working together as a community.

I appreciate the amazing staff we have here at FACTS and our efforts to include our parents in their children’s education. When I asked a parent how we can better serve her and her child, she replied: “I know that teachers here at FACTS love the children. I have seen that for myself. I trust the teachers are doing everything they can for my child. I thank you for that.” I was very touched and humbled by her words. After hearing these words, I knew I have to continue to work hard for our students and their parents.