Six types of parent involvement for Parents

* Personal/Individual Involvement and Empowerment
  + Attending Adult education or parenting classes
  + Training programs – Becoming classroom aides, being part of Parent Advisory Committee to help make decisions about program
  + Being part of classroom activities
  + Borrowing books or other resources from lending libraries in classroom or child care center
* Home/Family Involvement and Empowerment
  + Performances and play – attending child programs and becoming involved with them
  + Participating in information hotlines
  + Reading or helping create newsletter
  + Help with lending library (books/ materials) for parents and children to use together at home
  + Assisting teacher with small things you can do at home(cutting, stapling, sorting, etc. future classroom activities) – this helps teacher WAY MORE than you know! Ask teacher if they have anything you could help with
  + Be involved in IEP’s for your children with special needs
  + Check out class websites (or better yet, help run website)
* School-Based Involvement
  + Welcoming committees – encourage families to get to know other families. Families that have children in the program prior may be the best parents to organize these types of activities.
  + Tutoring time – assist with this
  + Parent/teacher conferences
  + Participation in workshops – introducing parents to policies and schools programs (in my program we call this our Parent Advisory Committee)
* Community-based involvement, empowerment and leadership
  + Family nights – nights designed specifically for parents and children to have fun together and promote positive interactions
  + Parent support groups
  + Home visits - my current program requires two home visits per school year. At the beginning of the year, this is a great way to meet the children and parents in their comfort zone.
* Leadership and Decision Making/Advocacy
  + School parent councils (Parent Advisory Committee) – have parents make decisions or be in charge of fundraisers, family nights, policies, website, etc.
* State and National Involvement
  + Those parents can be involved in many local, regional, state and national organizations.

References

Morrison, G. S. (2014) *Fundamentals of Early Childhood Education 7th edition.* New Jersey: Pearson.