

SSD General Education Principal Summer Institute Family Engagement



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Family Engagement

*Impactful
Practices*



ACTIVITY- COMMON ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES

- On the table are strips of paper
- Use one strip of paper to write a common practice you've seen used to engage families. (professionally or personally)
- Please repeat this until you've written as many as you'd like to share



Outcomes

- Increase understanding of high impact strategies versus low impact strategies in family engagement
- Resources to support use and implementation of ongoing best practices to increase engagement
- Ways to modify existing strategies to increase the efficacy of family engagement in your buildings/programs

What Family Engagement is.....

NAFSCE Policy Council Endorsed Definition (2010)

- Family engagement is a shared responsibility in which schools and other community agencies and organizations are committed to reaching out to engage families in meaningful ways and in which families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development.
- Family engagement is continuous across a child's life and entails enduring commitment but changing parent roles as children mature into young adulthood.
- Effective family engagement cuts across and reinforces learning in the multiple settings where children learn- at home, in prekindergarten programs, in school, in after school programs, in faith-based institutions, and in the community.

<https://nafsce.org/page/definition>

Family Engagement in the Law and Best Practices

ESSA

requires all districts to develop and adopt policy establishing procedures to conduct outreach to all parents and family members and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents

**Every Student
Succeeds Act of
2015**

IDEA

almost 30 years of research and experience has demonstrated that the education of children with disabilities can be more effective by... strengthening the role and responsibility of parents and ensuring that families...have meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children at school and at home

**Individuals with
Disabilities Education
Act**

IGBC

the education of each student is a responsibility shared by the school and family...families are essential partners in their child's academic, social, and emotional success.

- *building respectful relationships*
- *creating welcoming schools*
- *meaningful opportunities to engage in learning events*

**Parent and Family
Engagement Policy**

Key Data/Sources/Statistics

Family Engagement Matters

SCHOOLS & EDUCATORS



Increases job satisfaction, high expectation for students and families



Improves confidence and builds student and teacher relationship



Improves trust in schools; increases cultural and community awareness

STUDENTS & FAMILIES



Reduced drop-out rates, higher graduation rates, and increased student achievement



Reduce absenteeism



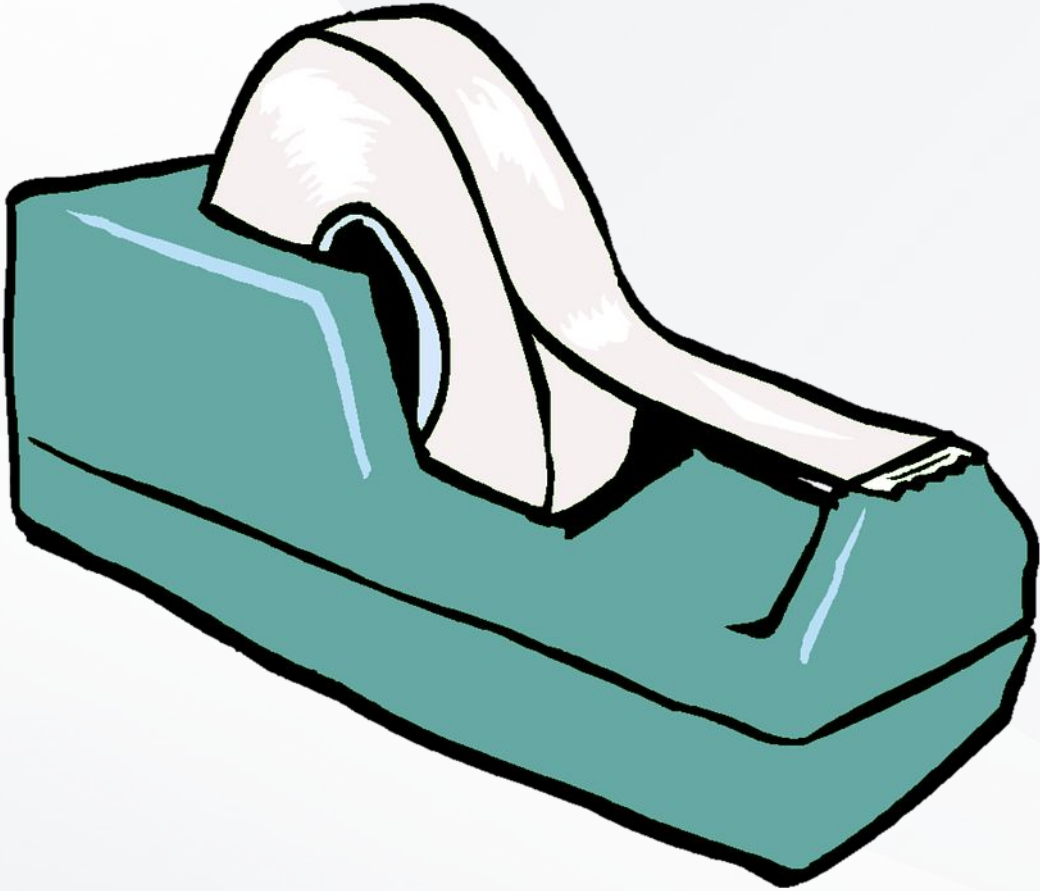
Improved social emotional learning and attitudes towards learning.

Family and Community Engagement 6.2021

Family Engagement Research

Family Engagement Matters - PTA

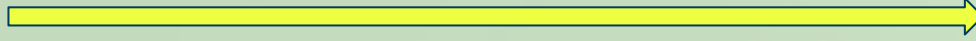
ACTIVITY: NEXT STEPS



- There are two easels in the front of the room. One labeled low impact and the other high impact.
- Please tape your strips of paper on the easel based on the perceived level of impact.
- If you see your practice on the board, simply tape it on top of it and in proximity to it.

LIST WAYS TO ENGAGE FAMILIES

LOW IMPACT



HIGH IMPACT

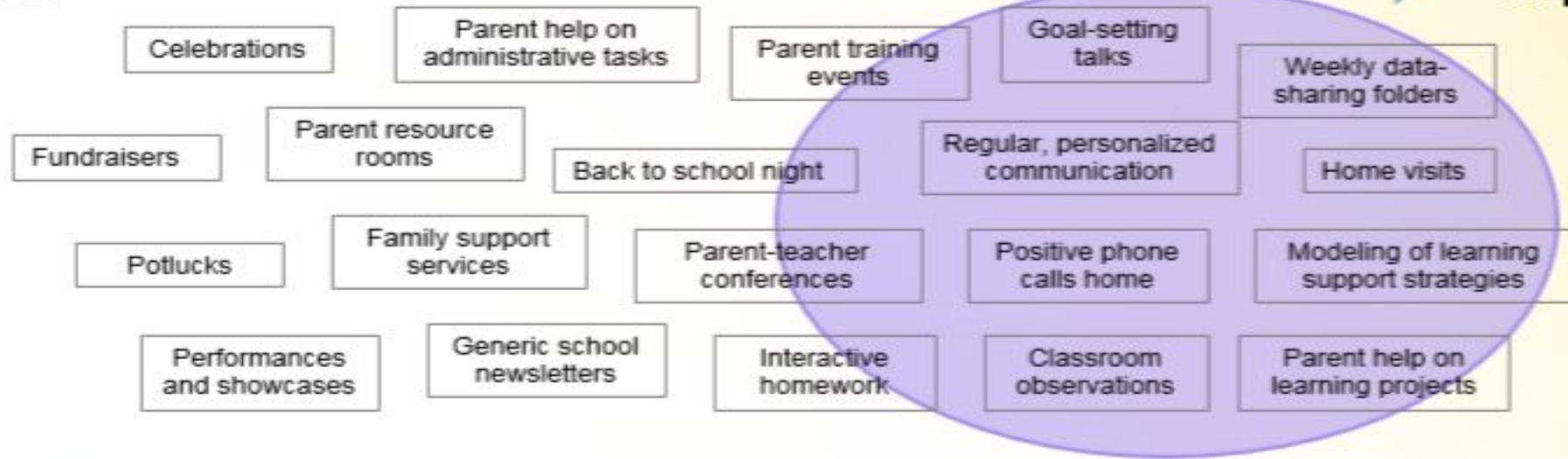
- Celebrations
- Potlucks
- Fundraisers
- Performances and Showcases
- Generic newsletter
- Parent Volunteers on task

- Goal setting tasks
- Weekly data sharing folders
- Home Visits
- Modeling of Learning Strategies
- Parent help on learning projects

Family engagement is an integral part of student learning, and we know in the comments how exactly you plan to rock family engagement this October!

Lower
impact

Higher
impact

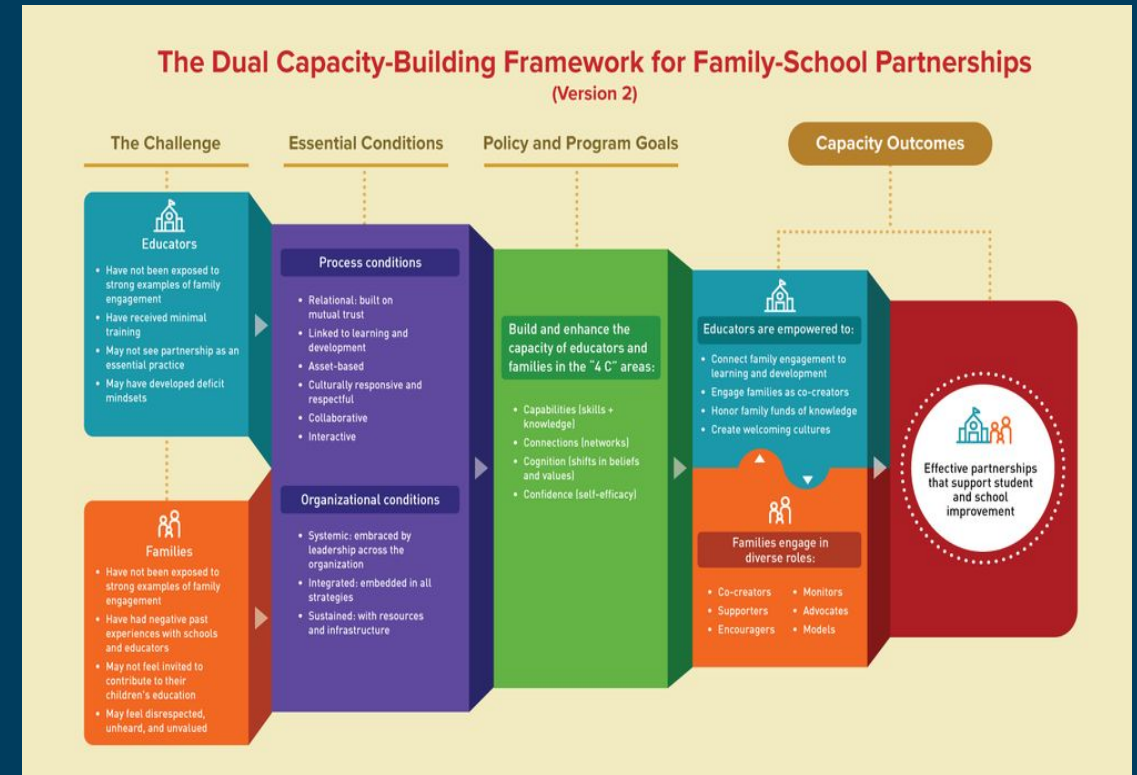


Flamboyant Foundation defines family engagement as collaboration between families and educators that accelerates student learning.

Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships

Process Conditions

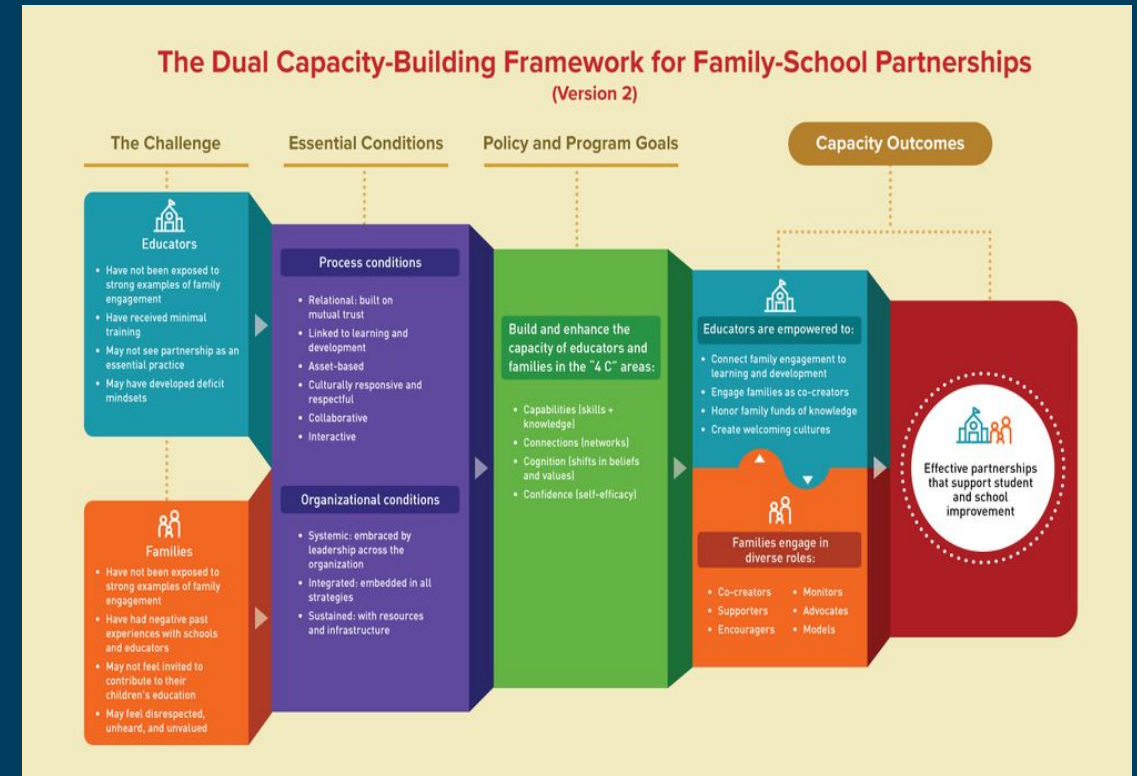
- Relational: built on mutual trust
- Linked to learning and development
- Asset-based
- Culturally responsive and respectful
- Collaborative
- Interactive



Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships

Organizational Conditions

- Systemic: embraced by leadership across the organization
- Integrated: embedded in all strategies
- Sustained: with resources and infrastructure



Principal Testimony - How did this work in reality? 5-8 min

Title: Activity or Opportunity to Engage

Provide this prompt to the principals and ask for a few photos and videos

Outcomes

Opportunities

Challenges we Overcame

Next Steps/Continuous Improvement

Principal Testimony - How did this work in reality? 5-8 min

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Outcomes

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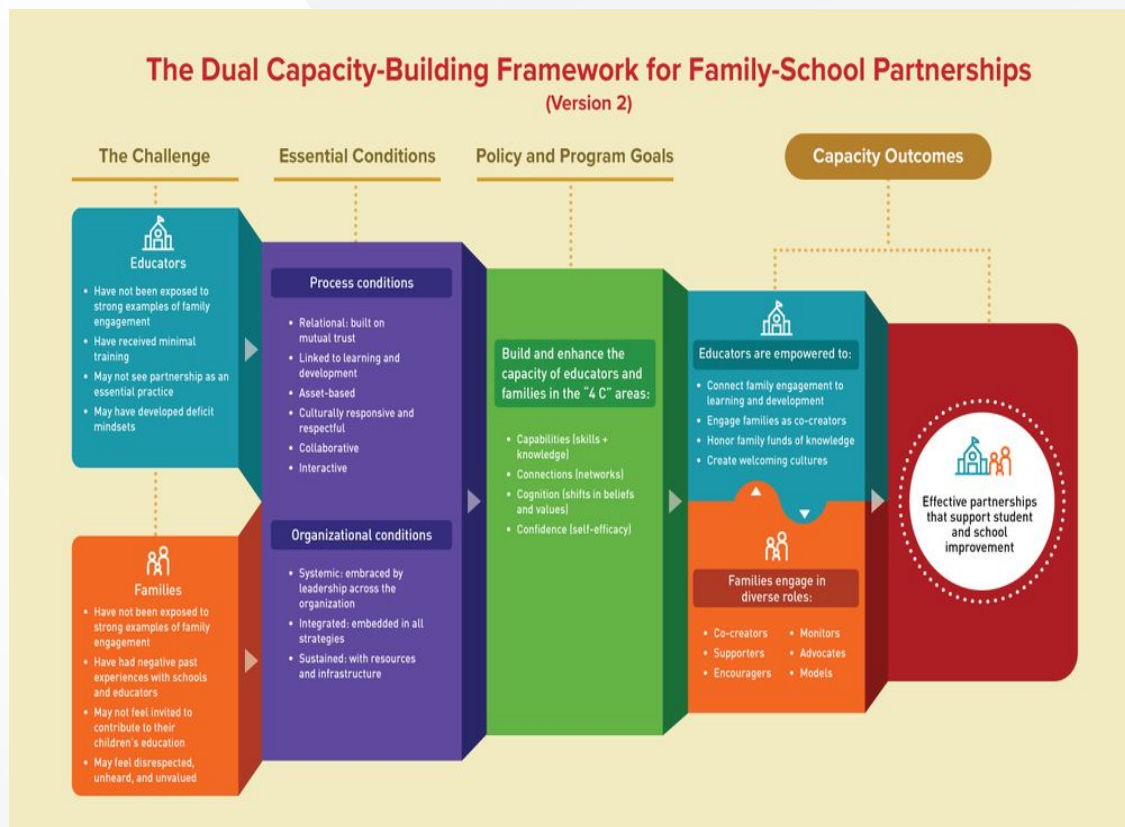
Challenges we Overcame

Next Steps/Continuous Improvement

Question and Answer



Key Resources for Support - Handouts



Family Engagement is

Described in the *Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships* from the U.S. Department of Education as:

Relational: built on mutual trust; **Culturally responsive and respectful;** **Collaborative;** and **Interactive**

- Ongoing, positive two-way communication with all families using their preferred method (emails, phone calls, face-to-face, etc.)
- Home visits facilitated by trained staff that want to build positive and respectful relationships and improve student outcomes
- Welcoming schools (warm office staff, approachable and friendly staff throughout the building, signage to ease navigation, notification of the requirements to gain access, etc.)
- Staff that are responsive to the diverse needs of families and students (flexible timing of meetings and events, translated documents available, interpreters services advertised and available for events, etc.)

Linked to learning and developmental

- Learning standards are clearly stated/displayed and can be understood by families
- Families acquire new tips, tools, and/or strategies they can use with their student in multiple settings to improve academic outcomes.
- Families have access to the school portal and are able to use the tool to monitor progress (attendance, academics, social emotional behavioral)
- Families have access and are able to utilize information about their student's curriculum, digital instruction and enrichment materials to reinforce learning
- Families partner with educators to set short-term learning goals for their child and are an integral part of goal attainment.

Asset-based

- Acknowledging that families are the experts about their child(ren)
- Builds on the knowledge and skills of families
- Provides opportunities for families to learn with and from other families
- Welcomes family voice, decision making, and leadership on teams



Effective Family-School Partnerships that support student achievement and school improvement include:

- Honoring and recognizing family's funds of knowledge
- Connecting family engagement to student learning
- Creating welcoming, inviting cultures
- Building family's capacity to negotiate multiple roles such as monitors, encouragers, supporters, advocates, decision makers, and collaborators while serving as equal partners with educators



Effective Family Engagement is NOT

- One time events such as literacy or math nights
 - One way communication only, such as newsletters
 - Back to School Night and/or Meet the Teacher Night
 - Annual IEP meetings and/or the IEP Process
 - Social events, such as pancake breakfast, spaghetti dinner, talent shows, etc. which do not include an emphasis on learning
- NOTE: While these are important events and provide information, most do not provide families with information to support learning.



Family Engagement Resources

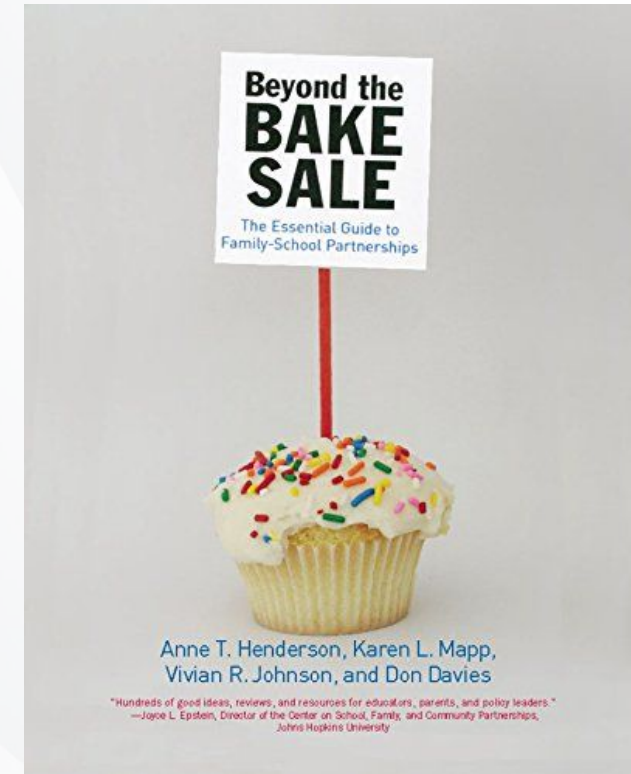
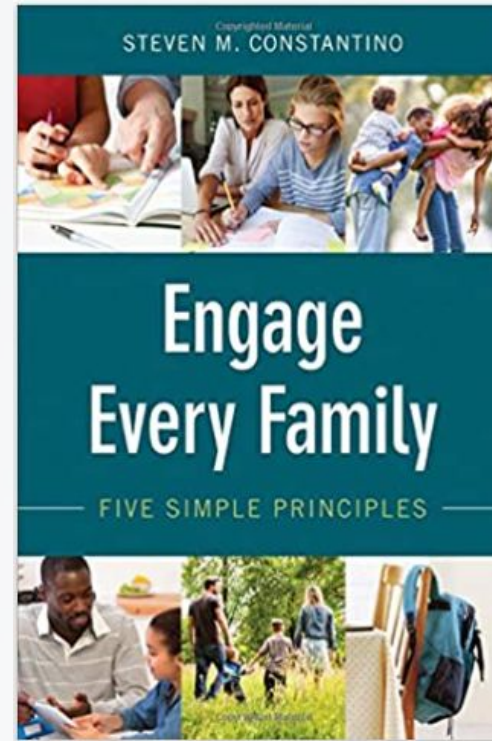
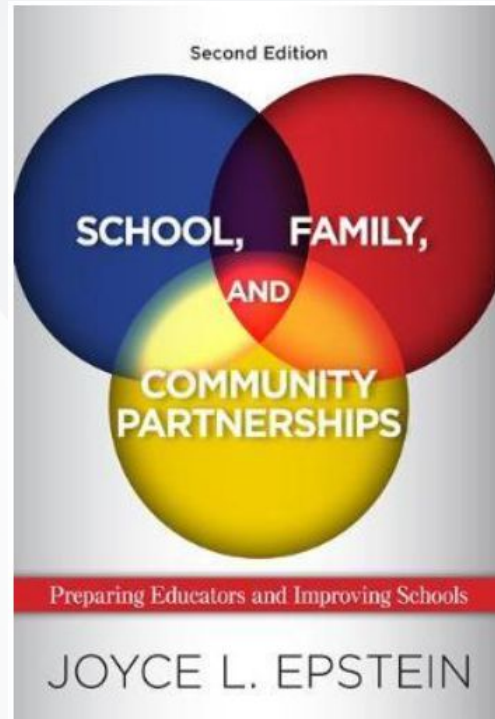
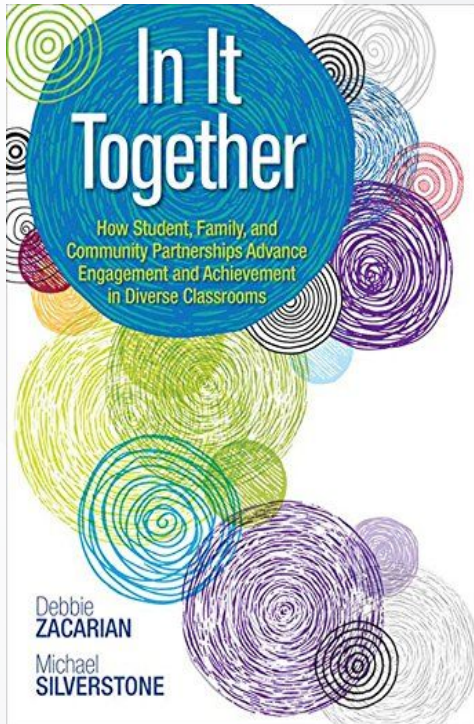
[Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships](#); www.dualcapacity.org

[FREE HarvardX Course—Introduction to Family Engagement in Education](#); <https://tinyurl.com/y9kyach6>

[Special School District Family and Community Outreach](#); www.ssdmo.org/Page/725

Family Engagement 5.2021

REFERENCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE: FCRC-THE LEARNING CENTER



Opportunities to Build Capacity with your Teams..

Systemic Practices in Family Engagement (4-Sessions)

These sessions were created to support schools/departments increase their understanding of equitable family engagement, and the benefits to students, families, and staff, and to provide concrete planning for systemic integration of evidence-based family engagement strategies into building/division improvement plans. These teams will commit to active participation in professional learning to build their capacity to champion this work in their area. Tools will be shared with teams to support building positive relationships with families and community partners to improve schools and student outcomes.

Session 1: Introduction to Family Engagement

Session 2: Welcoming Classrooms/Schools/Divisions

Session 3: Data Sharing and Supporting Learning at Home

Session 4: Evaluation and Measurement of Family Engagement

<https://pulse.kickup.co/events/collection/zHHbYbh736y8wktW2TXdZk>

Individual Coaching/Planning Sessions Available Upon Request



Opportunities for Families

SSD Parent Advisory Council (SSD PAC) representatives are elected/selected from each of the 22 partner districts and each of the five SSD schools to represent their district/school at the inter-district level

District Level (D-PAC) parent representatives from each building in the district come together to represent their school at the D-PAC district level

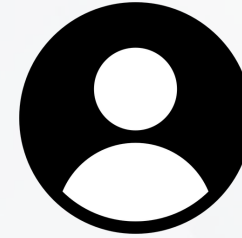
Districts Level PAC representation needed:

Pattonville, Ritenour, Hazelwood, Parkway, Affton, Kirkwood, Lindbergh, Clayton, Webster Groves, Maplewood Richmond Heights, and Ferguson/Florissant

Contact Information



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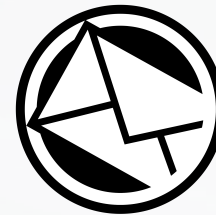
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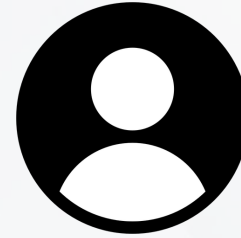
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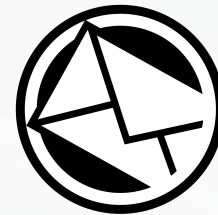
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