

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

*The Process to Engage Families in Schools
For Principals*

PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



Integrated

Family engagement should be embedded throughout school, plans & programs

Assets Based

Families strengths should be drawn upon and rather than doing things for families, our mindset should shift to what we can partner to do together with families

Relationships

Build mutual trust, based on respect & culturally responsive practices



ASSESS & DEVELOP A FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Action

Principal or Family Engagement designee uses data to determine needs and develop action plans for Family Engagement

Examples

- Meet with your site's designated FETAC Teacher to review their progress with Family Engagement at your school site
- Use the PTA National Standards or an existing survey to help determine needs of families and the level of Family Engagement at your school site
- Develop a Family Engagement Plan each school year

Resources

- [Family-School Action Plan](#)
- [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#)

COMMUNICATION PLAN



Pleased to meet you!
I am your school principal!

Action

Principal or Family Engagement Designee will develop a "Communication Plan" that includes two-way communication

Examples

- Teachers are encouraged to utilize tools for two-way communication such as Class Dojo
- Principal hosts monthly "Coffee Chats" to share news and gather input from parents
- Written newsletters (smore is a great tool because it can translate automatically)
- Other: text messages, social media pages, website, video messages

Resources

- Smore Newsletter: [Example 1](#), [Example 2](#), [Example 3](#)
- [Canva](#) (free flyer templates)



BUILD CAPACITY & CREATE CONNECTIONS

Action

Principal or Family Engagement Designee encourages and recruits parents to be engaged in school activities and participate as members of PTA, ELAC, School Site Council and LCAP Parent Ambassadors

Examples

- Encourage active involvement of all parents in school leadership programs, ensuring that meetings are held with translation
- Start a PTA/PTG, and attend meetings
- Offer parent courses and workshops based on parent needs/requests
- Include parents in planning of school events and programs
- Share data and information with parents including ways to support student success such as testing expectations

Resources

- [PS Council of PTAs](#)
- [Family Center Courses and Workshops](#)
(these can be offered at your school site)

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