
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How can you improve communication between home and school?

How can you engage more families from diverse backgrounds and cultures?

Our proven workshops teach creative ways to cultivate and sustain positive relationships with families and the greater community to ultimately help each student reach his or her potential.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CONSULTATIVE PLANNING FOR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT LEADERS

We collaborate with leaders to develop and implement systemic family engagement practices to improve student achievement. Our family engagement practitioners work side by side as partners to assist schools and districts in determining family engagement goals, action steps, and outcomes.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Articulate a family engagement definition and shared beliefs
- Align organizational systems and structures to family engagement goals
- Develop and refine a family engagement strategic plan
- Formulate family engagement strategies to align to the school improvement plan
- Create grade-level strategies for effectively engaging families in supporting learning
- Develop systems and structures for measuring impact of family engagement

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Assess how welcome families are in your school and in the learning process. The Family Engagement Assessment (FEA) includes:

- A physical walk-through of each building
- A review of printed materials distributed to families
- A review of the school website and parent portal
- “Shopper Calls” in English and other languages
- A survey of all building administrators, school staff, and families
- An individualized report of baseline data and recommendations for improvement
- One day of on-site professional learning focused on findings and implementation

RECOMMENDED FOR:

School and District Leadership Teams

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 677454

Each strategic planning session agenda is individualized to best meet the needs of the school/district.

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Early Childhood Centers, Elementary, Middle and High Schools

ITEM: 853882 (for first school)

ITEM: 853883 (for each additional school)

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COURSES

FOUNDATIONS OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

In this session participants will be introduced to research from the past 20 years as well as the US Department of Education's Dual-Capacity Framework for Effective Family-School Partnerships that demonstrates how certain types of family engagement benefit student learning. Through an interactive self-reflection exercise, participants will also learn about the conditions that must be present in every school to provide a solid foundation for building effective family partnerships.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the research that shows the impact of family engagement on student learning
- Identify the five process conditions that must be addressed in every family engagement activity
- Understand the importance of building staff capacity to implement effective family engagement efforts

IMPLEMENTING CAPACITY-BUILDING LITERACY EVENTS

According to Dr. Karen Mapp, "Parent participation is the leading predictor of students' academic success, regardless of family, race, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or cultural background." In spite of the research, schools continue to struggle with building and sustaining effective family-school partnerships. During the first half of this session, participants will explore the research and learn strategies and practices to help them partner effectively with families. In the afternoon, participants will apply the new ideas and strategies to their practice.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Identify the five process conditions that must be addressed in every family literacy event
- Understand how to design a family literacy event that builds the capacity of families to support their children's literacy at home
- Understand the importance of building staff capacity to implement effective family literacy efforts

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Central Office Administrators,
PreK-12 Administrators,
PreK-12 Teachers,
PreK-12 Parent Coordinators

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 809013

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Directors of Instruction,
Literacy Consultants,
PreK-5 Administrators,
PreK-5 Teachers

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 809017

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COURSES

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES TO WELCOME ALL FAMILIES

Learn how to make your school's environment the starting point for effective family engagement. During this session, participants will receive information on how to welcome families to school and in the learning process and how to strengthen communication practices (verbal, written, and virtual) to motivate and empower families to become active participants in their children's learning. Schools cannot maximize student learning without harnessing the power of families.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Assess current welcoming practices
- Explain why all families may not feel welcome in the school or in the learning process
- Recognize the difference between “doing to” and “doing with”
- Implement strategies that enhance two-way communication
- Design initiatives that move from compliance engagement to authentic relationships with families
- Illustrate the importance of active listening

ESTABLISHING A MODEL FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Create a one-stop location at the school for families to gather, network, learn, and grow. During this session, learn how to establish a model family resource center that provides a welcoming and accessible place in the school where families become engaged learning partners, offers access to materials and resources that directly support learning, and nurtures effective communication between school and home. In the second part of the training, apply the new ideas and practices to your day-to-day activities.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Learn how a family resource center can build the capacity of families to engage in their child's learning and development
- Learn how to establish a family resource center
- Engage in hands-on interactive activities essential to establishing a family resource center

RECOMMENDED FOR:

PreK–12 District Leaders, Principals, Teachers, Support Staff

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 809019

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Central Office Administrators, PreK–12 Administrators, PreK–12 Teachers, Parent Coordinators

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 677456

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30

LEADING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES: TWO-DAY WORKSHOP SERIES

LEADING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Parent coordinators, family coaches, and engagement staff are an important resource for connecting families and the community to the school. However, the role of the family engagement staff is often undefined and underutilized.

Helping key family engagement staff move from a social service support role and administrative accessory to a confident family coach focused on student learning outcomes requires quality professional development and the ongoing support of school leadership.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the research on family engagement, including a deep dive into the Dual-Capacity Framework
- Engage in rich dialogue and interactive activities to better understand the role of the parent coordinator
- Learn tools to self-assess current practices and develop a yearlong action plan aligned to student learning
- Use communication templates to keep leadership, school staff, and families updated on the work of family engagement staff

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Parent Coordinators, Family Coaches, Family Engagement Staff, PreK–12 Administrators

TIME: 2 full days

ITEM: 853881

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30



DR. KAREN MAPP'S FAMILY ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Scholastic has partnered with Dr. Karen Mapp of the Harvard Graduate School of Education to create a comprehensive family-school partnership training to support educators in turning research into practice and provide solutions for strengthening home-school relationships. Inspire school teams to engage families in meaningful learning partnerships to enhance student performance and systemically improve schools.

PRE- OR POST-PLANNING SUPPORT

You determine whether you need support before launching the training series or after the last session. Our experienced practitioners can provide support before the training on creating stakeholder buy-in and team formation or at the end of the series with driving change and implementing effective family engagement practices.

DAY 1: REFRAMING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

This session contains foundational training for district and school teams and covers the building blocks for elevated family engagement. Participants will be introduced to the research that supports the link between family engagement and improved student outcomes and school environments. They will learn to identify the components of effective practices that lead to partnerships between home and school.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the link between family and community engagement and student achievement
- Develop a strength-based lens with which to examine family partnership work
- Distinguish and describe what it means to link family engagement to student learning and school improvement

RECOMMENDED FOR:

School-based Action Teams consisting of school staff, family/community members, district leaders, and other educational partners.*

* Participants must attend all three sessions.

TIME: 3 full days of training, 1 full day of implementation support

ITEM: 813681

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 30

DR. KAREN MAPP'S FAMILY ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

DAY 2: REDESIGNING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

This session introduces participants to the Dual-Capacity Framework through a series of expert-guided interactive exercises. Through exploratory activities, participants deepen their understanding of the Dual-Capacity Framework and learn to integrate the five process conditions and effective practices into any family engagement event.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the purpose and components of the Dual-Capacity Framework
- Apply the Dual-Capacity Framework to design and implement family engagement strategies
- Repurpose a family engagement event to incorporate best-known practices

DAY 3: ENGAGING FAMILIES IN LEARNING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

This session builds the capacity of school teams to design, implement, and evaluate a yearlong plan for family engagement.

Participants will share the success of their repurposed family engagement activity. Then they will learn how to design and implement family engagement events that are aligned with student learning goals. All teams will leave with tools to implement a yearlong plan to engage families.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Learn how to integrate family engagement activities with student learning goals
- Develop a family engagement plan
- Understand how to evaluate family engagement efforts

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COACHING

In between professional learning workshops, it is critical to cultivate family engagement skills and practices by applying them to day-to-day activities. That's why Scholastic's family engagement coaches work side by side with teachers and school teams to build their capacity to successfully implement and lead family engagement initiatives throughout the school year. Through highly customized, on-site support, coaches work with staff and leaders every step of the way as they make family and community engagement a priority system-wide.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Create a shared vision and build consensus among multiple levels of stakeholders
- Align organizational structures and systems toward specified family engagement goals
- Facilitate and drive change at the classroom level and system-wide
- Implement effective family engagement practices to achieve school and student learning goals

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Central Office Administrators,
PreK–12 Building Administrators,
Family Engagement Directors,
Title I Directors,
Other Support Staff

TIME: Full day

ITEM: 660272

PARTICIPANTS: Up to 4

