Parent Engagement Materials

For Principals

2020
TOPIC: Parent involvement vrs Parent engagement (radio interview)

**Summary:** During our 3/12/14 PTChat, we explore the distinction between parent involvement and parent engagement and why it matters.


TOPIC: Welcome to Global Family Research Project!

**Summary:** We are pleased to announce that all of the materials produced by Harvard Family Research Project (1983-2016) are now available in the archive section of our Global Family Research Project site. Search the archive and you will find many useful resources and related research for building and evaluating family, school, and community engagement practices, programs, and policies; for strengthening professional and organizational development; and for creating a more equitable anywhere anytime learning ecology for all children and families.

[https://globalfrp.org/Archive?utm_source=Constant%252BContact&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Landing%252BPage&utm_campaign=FINEFeb2013](https://globalfrp.org/Archive?utm_source=Constant%252BContact&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Landing%252BPage&utm_campaign=FINEFeb2013)

TOPIC: Secret Parent: 10 things we’d like to say to teachers

**Summary:** Parents evenings aren’t our idea of a fun night out, your complicated grading systems are impenetrable and it would be nice if you talked to us before a crisis


TOPIC: PTA (parent teachers associations) program creates parent advocates

**Summary:** With 117 years of promoting parent involvement under its collective belt, the PTA thinks it has the right formula for training parents in their new watchdog role under California’s reformed school finance and accountability system.


TOPIC: “Learning is family affair at Broomfield library”
Summary: Here’s how it begins: The sign on the door says the library is for kids, but at Broomfield’s Children’s Library, reading is a family affair.

https://engagingparentsinschool.edublogs.org/2014/01/19/learning-is-family-affair-at-broomfield-library/

TOPIC: Parents Are Our Allies
Summary: Parents are our allies, but that means that educators need to see themselves as part of the community as well. The educators have to have a vision for how knowledge can be used to address some of those problems. And that means the educators need to know that community.

https://engagingparentsinschool.edublogs.org/2011/10/09/parents-are-our-allies/

TOPIC: Great Video: “Come Along on a Home Visit”
Summary: A Sacramento TV news station did this great short segment on the Parent-Teacher Home Visit Project.

https://engagingparentsinschool.edublogs.org/2013/12/29/great-video-come-along-on-a-home-visit/

TOPIC: A Simple Idea to Begin Creating Caring Connections between Students, Teachers, and Families
Summary: In re-imagining an ideal world, one in which parents develop a significant relationship with their children’s teacher so that care and learning is coordinated between home and school, I envisioned a different scene. What if teachers created a morning reception line, like there might be at a wedding? What if they lined up, perhaps with name tags and their grade level numbers written in chalk on the playground, each morning every day for a week one of the first weeks of school? It could happen the second or third or fourth week so there’s still time!

See this link for more information: https://confidentparentsconfidentkids.org/2019/08/29/a-simple-idea-to-begin-creating-caring-connections-between-students-teachers-and-families/
TOPIC: Re-thinking Parent Engagement in Schools is a Potential Game-changer – Expert

Summary: From electronic video newsletters for boarding parents, to “blossom bags” with home-based literacy activities for Prep and Kindergarten parents, Queensland independent schools are adopting new approaches to link school and home to enhance student learning.


TOPIC: Strategies that Strengthen School-to-Home Collaborations

Summary: Educators and parents/guardians alike have a sense that school-family partnerships are important. In fact, parent and guardian engagement is a top predictor of a child’s school success. Yet I hear from numerous schools who are deeply engaged in implementing research-based Social and Emotional Learning that they are struggling to create authentic relationships with families. They list off the events they host – Meet the Teacher Night, Math Night, and Muffins for Moms/Donuts for Dads – but still feel a gap. “We see only a few well-known faces attending meetings and we can’t seem to attract the others to come.”

But what if our focus on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) could be the glue that bonds educators and families together? What if we didn’t create more events or extra newsletters, but reframed our way of viewing the relationship and, as a result, our practical approaches to it?

See this link for more information: https://www.rethought.com/blog/blog/2019/09/12/5-sel-strategies-that-strengthen-school-to-home-collaborations/

TOPIC: What the research says about the best way to engage parents (GET- Guaranteed Education Teams)

Summary: The evening event was not the classic school fundraiser or social. No one from the PTA begged for donations; the kids didn’t dance across the stage in costumes. The goal was to connect with busy families in a more meaningful way: showing parents what’s happening in the classroom and, critically, how they can support learning at home.

TOPIC: Great Video: “Come Along on a Home Visit”

https://engagingparentsinschool.edublogs.org/2013/12/29/great-video-come-along-on-a-home-visit/