TOPIC: The Best Resources On Parent Engagement In Countries Other Than The U.S.

Summary: I’ve written quite a few posts about parent engagement in countries other than the United States, and decided to bring together the best resources into one list. You can see all my parent engagement-related “The Best” lists here.


TOPIC: “SAY THEIR NAMES” – A TOOLKIT FOR DISCUSSING RACISM FROM CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summary: A toolkit to help foster productive conversations about race and civil disobedience

https://confidentparentsconfidentkids.org/2020/06/02/say-thier-names-a-toolkit-for-discussing-racism-from-chicago-public-schools/

TOPIC: Engaging and Supporting Families During Distance Learning

Summary: The expectation is not for families to replicate the classroom environment at home or exactly what would be happening during a normal school day. That is not possible. Instead, we wanted families to understand that their homes are already primed for wonderful learning to happen and that there are simple but meaningful changes they can make in their environment and routines to support their children’s learning. To this effect, we sent home resources for families to explore and a video we made describing these changes. Here is what we wanted families to know:

https://globalfrp.org/Articles/Engaging-and-Supporting-Families-During-Distance-Learning

TOPIC: How TalkingPoints Is Helping Teachers and Parents Stay Connected to Enhance Student Success and Well-Being

Summary: With more students learning from home, it is even more crucial for teachers and parents to stay connected to each other. TalkingPoints has received cash grant support from the Cisco Foundation to develop its mobile platform that automatically translates messages between teachers and students’ families. Through the platform, teachers can interact with any family member in over 100 different languages.
TOPIC: Schools Drive Positive Change Through Parent-Teacher Relationships

Summary: The design-thinking process can be a step toward learning more about the real barriers that keep families from engaging in their children’s education.

Link: https://globalfrp.org/Articles/Schools-Drive-Positive-Change-Through-Parent-Teacher-Relationships

TOPIC: Connecting Learning at Home & School

Summary: Welcome to Connecting learning at home and school. Research demonstrates that effective schools have high levels of parental and community engagement. This engagement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Family engagement can have a major impact on student learning, regardless of the social or cultural background of the family.

Link: http://connectlearningathomeandschool.weebly.com/digital-literacy-what-is-multimodal.html

TOPIC: Adaptability is Essential for the Future

Summary: The world is changing in front of our eyes. Globalisation and the impact of technology means that, in many ways, the world of today is barely recognisable to that of twenty or thirty years ago. This is particularly true of the workplace. We’ve long been aware of the concept of offshoring the work force, although many of us still equate this to blue-collar work or call-centre services. The fact is more and more white-collar work is moving off shore, and the workplace is becoming increasingly “freelance.” We’re not sure what impact this will have on our students today, but we must appreciate that the education system was essentially designed to produce people who were categorised based on their skill set, and set on a course, that for most would keep them in the same line of work, and for many with the same employer.

TOPIC: Parent engagement sustained and coherent programme
Summary: Source of the mind mapping - www.buzan.com
https://62141417866867c5ff5c-ac878b5da2116fb25d1bf1d01adb7707.ssl.cf3.rackcdn.com/0e2f6b6f2f79c32986043f7f3c58056019ed29.png

TOPIC: Link It to Learning
Summary: Concrete tips for making family engagement happen
https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/14/10/link-it-learning

TOPIC: Going Home
Summary: I spent 19 years as a community organizer, visiting people in their homes, so it seemed natural to continue that work when I became a high school teacher five years ago. After all, what better way could there be to get to know my students and the environment where they spend most of their time?
https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2009/08/05/tln_ferlazzo.html

TOPIC: Parents Schooled in Learning How to Help With Math
Summary: One recent morning, seven parents left their homes and jobs and drove to an administrative office here to sit through a two-hour tutorial on addition and subtraction. They were not seeking a refresher on arithmetic, but rather a better understanding of the mathematics lessons their sons and daughters were studying in class and bringing home with them every night.

TOPIC: The Parent Factor
Summary: When the last day of school rolled around, I asked John what had happened. His mother had told me John was an intelligent student, but lacked self-discipline academically. In fact, he seemed to have self-identified as the teacher’s worst “class clown.” To my question, John replied: “I don’t know. My mom used to ask me every day how school had gone. But she doesn’t ask anymore; she doesn’t seem to care. It’s hard for me to care when she doesn’t.”
https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/12/19/16ordorica.h28.html
TOPIC: The National Symposium (2014)


Karen Mapp
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dmitwr7vxL8
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3a0sa7KuE
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=egtZfAIQumU

Ann Henderson
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMtGj2L2Hk
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tcy367TxFMQ
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bvk9RwJXThM

Joe Flessa responding to Karen Mapp
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bvk9RwJXThM

Parents and Evaluation – Patrick Lyons Synergistiq

Integrating family-school partnerships in the school improvement agenda – Ben Jensen

Storify Twitter feed
TOPIC: Handbook on Family and Community Engagement

Summary: The Handbook on Family and Community Engagement was created with funding and support from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Academic Development Institute and the Center on Innovation & Improvement. The Center on Innovation & Improvement is a national content center supported by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. Award #S283B050057


TOPIC: Building Effective Family Engagement

Summary: When authentic relationships between families and educators are built, everyone wins

https://flamboyanfoundation.org/our-work/family-engagement/

TOPIC: Four Ways to Improve Parent Involvement in K-12 Learning

Summary: Students benefit when there are parent-school partnerships surrounding their school work. However, it is not always easy to promote such a culture of shared responsibility, especially given the great time demands placed on parents and teachers today. Schools may face difficulty in attaining an efficient collaborative framework among stakeholders, which include teachers, parents, students, the community, and the administration. Trust between schools and parents, in particular, is vital for creating a healthy learning environment.


TOPIC: Keep Parents Connected in the Middle Grades

Summary: We’ve just had Parent Visiting Day at my school. It was endearing to see the students excited to show their parents around the building, point out their projects on display, and introduce them to their teachers. What’s more, parents get a glimpse into the daily lives of their children as they go through

https://www.middleweb.com/20327/keep-parents-connected-middle-grades/
TOPIC: What a Lesson Plan for Parent Engagement Looks Like

Summary: How can we intentionally prepare teachers to form meaningful partnerships with parents before they enter their first classroom? I recently met with Melissa Erickson, Executive Director of the Alliance for Public Schools, about family engagement. Her organization’s mission is to “educate, engage, and inspire families and communities to collectively support high-quality public schools and the children who attend them.” Simply put, they help schools and families work meaningfully together.


TOPIC: Parental engagement ‘terrifying’ for many families

Summary: As the education system in Scotland gears up for major change, at Connect our focus is firmly on Learning Together – the action plan to strengthen parental engagement as part of these reforms.


TOPIC: Video: “Karen Mapp’s Framework for Family and Community Engagement”

Summary: Here’s a useful video from Karen Mapp, one of the top parent involvement/engagement experts in the U.S.


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.

https://www.bamradionetwork.com/track/parent-involvement-versus-parent-engagement-is-there-really-a-difference/

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%2528Contact&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Landing%2528Page&utm_campaign=FINEFeb2013

**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:** The Family Engagement Playbook

**Summary:** The Family Engagement Playbook is a collection of promising research-based approaches to strengthen the competencies of people, groups, and organizations that are dedicated to families. The Playbook offers ideas, models, and tools that can be easily integrated into training, continuing education, and organizational learning opportunities. All of the approaches put families—especially those that are most marginalized in our society—at the center, and they hold the promise to change mindsets, build relationships, and transform organizational policies and practices to promote co-created family engagement.

https://medium.com/familyengagementplaybook/about-a0880066834d
TOPIC: Working with parents to support children’s learning

Summary: Here is a guide offering schools and teachers four recommendations to support parental engagement in children’s learning.


TOPIC: Parents and Relationships

Summary: There are times parents call our schools because they are upset. The parents who call are passionate about their children. From time to time, we all find ourselves talking about and generating a great deal of concern about parents who do not care about their children and have no passion for their children’s futures. You know, these parents do not exist. All parents love their children the best they know how and are passionate about their children’s education and futures. All parents express this passion and love a little differently. As educators, we need to continually remind ourselves of this, and we need to be cautious that we do not pass judgment because we choose to view parenting through the lens of our own experiences.


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: Ways to Use Technology to Engage Parents

Summary: Technology can be introduced in classrooms to develop a better connection, interaction and communication between students, teachers and parents


TOPIC: Altman: Three Ways to Boost Family Engagement in Schools and Bolster Student Success

Summary: The belief that family engagement is important has been gaining traction in the K-12 field, but the crux of “why” can be drastically different depending on whom you talk to, and when it comes to the “how” of engaging families, the approaches can be even more diverse.

Schools have meet-the-teacher events at the beginning of the year, and there’s even National Family Engagement Month in November, when all the diverse interpretations of family engagement are on display on social media: pictures and videos of schools hosting family movie nights, parent breakfasts and other events to bring parents and guardians into schools.

While these efforts should be applauded, too many schools consider these one-off events full-fledged family engagement programs, and the work stops there. This goes to the “why” of family engagement — rather than being a school event that facilitates a couple hours of family time, it should thoroughly support students throughout their education. And when it comes to the “how,” research suggests that building relationships with parents and providing them with regular, real-time updates about their child’s performance is the strategy with the greatest impact.

See this link for more information; https://www.the74million.org/article/altman-three-ways-to-boost-family-engagement-in-schools-and-bolster-student-success/

TOPIC: Uplift An Empowerment Approach to Parent Engagement in Schools/ Susan Maury

Summary: An action research project conducted by Good Shepherd Youth & Family Service.

See this link for more information; https://www.goodshep.org.au/media/1224/uplift_report.pdf
TOPIC: Good home learning in early years boosts your secondary school achievements

Summary: The positive effects of a rich home learning environment during a child’s early years continue into adolescence and help improve test scores later in life, according to a new study published in *School Effectiveness and School Improvement*. Read more here: [https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2019-07/tfg-ghl070319.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2019-07/tfg-ghl070319.php)

TOPIC: It’s Essential That Parents and Teachers Support One Another In and Out of the Classroom

Summary: We started a parent organization called PEAK (Parents and Educators Alongside Kids) at our school. We had a simple mission to bridge the gap between home and school to educate children. [https://www.the74million.org/article/its-essential-that-parents-and-teachers-support-one-another-in-and-out-of-the-classroom/](https://www.the74million.org/article/its-essential-that-parents-and-teachers-support-one-another-in-and-out-of-the-classroom/)

TOPIC: Palmdale School District Increases Efforts with Parent Engagement and Community Involvement to Better Schools

Summary: At Palmdale School District, parent involvement and engagement is an important part of how each school in the district runs. Many efforts are made to include parents in as much district decision-making as possible as part of the Palmdale PROMISE to prepare students for the future. Parents in the Palmdale School District are also able to rally together with various groups and associations to ensure their children are a part of a loving and progressive educational community. [http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/4162123](http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/4162123)
TOPIC: Experience the Ecology of Learning

Summary: An ecology of learning includes the places and interactions that offer opportunities for learning, development, and achievement throughout a person’s life. This environment inspires exploration, creativity, connections with others, and support in mastering skills at home, and in school, the community, and digital spaces. View our latest video explaining our vision for an ecology of learning for families below.

See this link for more information: https://globalfrp.org/Articles/Experience-the-Ecology-of-Learning

TOPIC: How Teachers and Parents Work Together for Student Success

Summary: Susan TerLouw takes a proactive approach to fostering collaboration with her students’ parents.


TOPIC: Parental involvement plays key role in children's academic attainment, research shows

Summary: New research has shown how parental engagement has a positive effect on a child’s academic attainment—regardless of age or socioeconomic status.

See this link for more information: https://phys.org/news/2019-09-parental-involvement-key-role-children.html

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.rethinked.com/blog/blog/2019/09/12/5-sel-strategies-that-strengthen-school-to-home-collaborations/

TOPIC: How much should parents do at home to engage with their child’s education? (Radio interview)

**Summary:** This is a great tool for Principals and parents to create conversation about Parent Engagement. In 2017 the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) held “the most comprehensive conference on parent engagement ever held.” The Queensland P&F Federation was heavily involved in this conference with many participants.

This radio interview is about the conference and asks “why is parent engagement such a hot button issue?” Part of the answer is that parents are an untapped resource but are one of the best ways to improve the academic performance of young people.

See this link for more information:
http://www.abc.net.au/radio/canberra/programs/mornings/parental-engagement/8590020

TOPIC: Parent Engagement Fact Sheet - What are the most important things parents can do?

**Summary:** When families and schools work together, children are more likely to build good relationships and do better at school. There are simple things parents can do at home, and with their child’s school, to help their child to do their best. Showing children that education is important, building their confidence and connecting with their school helps to shape children’s learning and well-being.

See this link for a fact sheet from the P&F Federation about the best things research says parents can do to engage with their children’s learning.
TOPIC: Epstein’s six types of parent involvement – A Framework

**Summary:** Dr. Joyce Epstein of Johns Hopkins University has developed a framework for defining six different types of parent involvement. This framework assists educators in developing school and family partnership programs.

See the framework at this link:

http://nova.saisd.net/storage/uploads/FederalPrograms/Epstein%20Framework

TOPIC: Giving parents meaningful information about their child’s learning

**Summary:** Dylan Wiliam, Professor of Educational Assessment at the University of London talks to ACER about A to E grades and what meaningful information parents need to understand their child’s learning

See the article and video at this link:


TOPIC: Engaging parents and families: A toolkit for practitioners

**Summary:** Educators, policy makers and parents in Scotland have long recognized the vital impact that positive parental engagement has on the educational outcomes of children.

This toolkit has been developed to provide practitioners with a practical resource to help support partnerships with parents and families in all aspects of their children’s learning.

Practitioners can use the toolkit to help them achieve and sustain high levels of parental involvement and meaningful engagement within their learning settings.

See this link for more information:

https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Pages/par2engagingparentstoolkit.aspx

TOPIC: Progressing Parental Engagement - Teacher Fact Sheet

**Summary:** The ACT Government has published a fact sheet for teachers which addresses the following questions:
What is parental engagement? How does parental engagement work? What impact can parental engagement have – according to the research?

See the fact sheet at this link: http://www.det.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/686551/52741-DET-Parental-Engagement-A4-Factsheet-for-schools-8pp_FA2_ACC.pdf

**TOPIC: Parents as agents of change**

**Summary:** This is a video of Dr Karen Mapp discussing how parents can help and support other parents into more effective engagement with their children’s education.

Parents play many roles which are very important in the education and development of their children including being a partner with teachers and schools in their formal education. But some parents do not know how to do this or may lack the confidence or skills or “permission” to become more engaged particularly with the school. “If parents don’t become involved it does not mean they don’t want to.” This short video discusses how schools and parents can invite and support other parents into better ways to engage with their children’s education.

See the video at this link: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=AMZqHVDiw7w

**TOPIC: Closing the education divide – Parent-Child Home Programme**

**Summary:** At three years of age, there are already big differences in language and mathematical development between children from rich and poor backgrounds. This gap will widen if not addressed before a child starts school.

A programme pioneered in Ireland in Dublin’s Docklands is showing how early intervention, at home, can eliminate that gap. The Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP) is a school readiness programme that aims to nurture pre-school children’s early literacy and numeracy skills through educational play.

Each week, for two years, a home visitor brings a book or toy, and uses it to model play and interaction activities for parents and children to do together. The books and toys are left after each visit to encourage interaction between the parents and their children.

The PCHP originated in America in 1965, and was first introduced in Dublin in 2007, as part of the Early Learning Initiative (ELI) at the National College of Ireland.

See these links for more information:

https://www.ncirl.ie/ELI/Strand-1-Early-Learning-0-6-years/Home-Visitor-Programme-PCHP
http://www.parent-child.org/

**TOPIC:** Four Takeaways from STEM Programs That Empower Families

**Summary:** At the heart of family engagement is the belief that we, as providers, always have more to learn from the families we serve. The most important elements of effectively co-constructing family engagement to support children’s learning is approaching program design with an open mind, asking for and truly listening to family’s spoken and unspoken feedback, and committing to refining practices based on that input. In this blog, we share four promising practices and lessons learned for engaging families in STEM.

https://globalfrp.org/Articles/Four-Takeaways-from-STEM-Programs-That-Empower-Families

**TOPIC:** How parents could revolutionize education and boost results

**Summary:** We can engage parents — in ways that enable students to do better, like school more and stay in school longer.


**TOPIC:** Parents, not schools, are to blame for our education crisis

**Summary:** Soon term one will be in full swing but instead of quibbling over class sizes, criticizing the curriculum and taking teachers to task, let’s look closer to home to give kids the best shot at educational achievement.

As simplistic as it might sound in this age of rigorous national testing and international ranking, the family environment remains the single most important determinant of how a child fares in the classroom.

Learn more here: https://www.couriermail.com.au/rendezview/parents-not-schools-are-to-blame-for-our-education-crisis/news-story/d903a7af8e9a9581ab279b8a384e6b80
TOPIC: Progress has been made through hard work and partnership

Summary: Read more here: Today, there is a renewed spark in Castle Park. Together with parents, residents and community leaders, Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood partners, inspired by the model of the Harlem Children’s Zone, have worked to create a community of opportunities, centered around strong schools, to provide children and their families with comprehensive coordinated support to reverse the cycle of generational poverty.

Explore this topic further here:

https://www.thestarnews.com/progress-has-been-made-through-hard-work-and-partnership/