

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ONLINE LEARNING MODULES

Module 1 - Learning about Family Engagement

I. Introduction to Family Engagement

- Definitions
- Family involvement and family engagement
- Benefits of family engagement
- Barriers to effective family engagement

II. Theories Impacting Family Engagement Work

- Family systems
- Ecological systems
- Family empowerment model (Dunst)
- Social Capital
- Funds of Knowledge

III. Learning about Families

- Demographics of Minnesota families
- Family Diversity
 - Structure
 - Cultural

IV. Influence of School Characteristics

- Atmosphere
- Leadership
- Outreach

V. Family Engagement Models and Frameworks

- School Development Program (Comer)
- Family-School Partnership (Epstein)
- Hoover-Dempsey & Sandler Model of Parental Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (OHS)

VI. Family Engagement Strategic Plans

Module 2 - The Practice of Family Engagement

VII. Supporting Families

- Family life transitions
- Poverty
- Family violence and abuse
- Families with children with special needs
- Families with mental health needs

VIII. Advocacy

- Strategies for becoming advocates
- Issues affecting children and families
- Advocacy at local, state, and national levels

IX. Family Engagement Strategies

- School-based strategies
- Building respectful relationships with families
- Family events
- Home-based strategies
- Home visits
- Parenting education

X. Communication Strategies

- Reciprocal communication skills and activities
- Informal and formal
- Teacher's role in IFSP and IEP conferences
- Print communication
- Electronic communication

XI. Partnerships/Collaborations

- Community resources
- Formal and informal

XII. Developing Family Leaders

- Collaborative decision making with families
- Legal rights of families
- Parent organizations or advisory councils
- School board members