

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MODULES

Part 1 - Learning, Deliberating, and Planning

I. Introduction to Family Engagement

- Family engagement overview
- Definitions important to family engagement
- Moving from parent involvement to family engagement
- Benefits of family engagement
- Barriers to effective family engagement
- Two main frameworks for family engagement

II. Planning Your Family Engagement System

- Culturally responsive
- Ecological theory
- Equity
- Family-centered practice
- Family systems theory
- Family strengths
- Social capital

III. Learning about Families

- Demographics of Minnesota families
- Family diversity
- Family development
- Family life transitions
- What families want for their children
- Data related to family engagement
- Learning more about families

IV. Learning about Your School/Organization

- Your organization's policies
- School/program culture and climate
- Building relationships with families
- Leadership
- Values
- Authenticity
- Structure
- Family engagement plans/goals

V. Models, Frameworks, Toolkits

- Comparison Overview
- CRAF-E⁴
- Equitable Collaboration framework
- Family engagement toolkits
- Family-School Partnership (Epstein)
- Hoover-Dempsey & Sandler (Vanderbilt)
- Parent engagement toolkit for educators
- Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE)
- Dual Capacity-Building Framework
- School Development Program (Comer)
- Strengthening Families Framework
- Parent involvement programs
- Toolkit of Resources for Engaging Families
- Two-Generation or Dual-Generation Programs

VI. Program Development and Evaluation

- Integrating with district/organization plans
- Ensuring systemic family engagement
- School/building level
- District/organization level
- Community level
- Assessments and evaluations

Part 2 - Implementing, Practicing, and Enhancing

VII. Leadership

- Leadership
- Laws, regulations relevant to family engagement
- Legal rights of families
- Family engagement and school improvement
- Standards
- Developing family leaders
- Family engagement and health
- Parent liaisons, family advocates, and other support
- Collaborative strategies
- Parent organizations and advisory councils

VIII. District/Program Staff

- Exploring our beliefs, assumptions, and worldview
- How families view family engagement
- Ways of working with and supporting families
- Working with families, understanding diversity
 - Cultural diversity
 - Families in poverty
 - Families with children with special needs
 - Immigrant, migrant, and refugee families
 - Linguistic diversity
- Other areas of diversity
- Other topics to explore

IX. Family Engagement Strategies

- Classroom-based strategies
- Home-based strategies
- School-based strategies
- District-based strategies
- Community-based strategies
- Other programs and strategies
 - Family literacy, home visiting, family education

X. Communication Strategies

- Background and benefits
- Communication skills and activities
- Teachers/educator roles
- Districtwide
- Public relations and outreach
- Communication modalities and strategies

XI. Community Partnerships and Collaborations

- Overview and benefits
- Leadership
- Contextual and social factors
- Community needs assets and resources
- Practices and strategies
- Parent and family roles in family engagement
- Community partners

XII. Putting It All Together: Your Family Engagement Plan

- Key resources
- Key information from each module
- Assessment and evaluation
- District/organization and community examples
- Final project
- Continued learning