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Are artifacts filed in Fr DOX?
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Yes, Sign-In/Agenda/Advertisements
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olved in a meaningful way.
as "Family/Parent Outreach"-
meeting. It's a partnership!
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Data

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Family engagement <u>is</u> on-going, reciprocal, and a partnership between parents, families and schools. In order to be family engagement the following six factors should be present:

- 1. Schools encourage and validate family participation in decision making related to their children's education.
- Consistent, timely, continuous, two-way communication is facilitated through multiple forms and is responsive to the linguistic preference of the family about both the child and the larger program.
- Families and schools collaborate and exchange knowledge. Families share their unique knowledge and skills
 through volunteering and actively engaging in events and activities at schools. Teachers seek out information
 about their students' lives, families, and communities and integrate this information into their curriculum and
 instructional practices.
- Schools and families place an emphasis on creating and sustaining learning activities at home and in the community that extend the teaching experiences so as to enhance each child's learning.
- Families create a home environment that values learning and supports school programs. Families collaborate in establishing goals for children both at home and at school.
- Schools create an ongoing and comprehensive system for promoting family engagement by ensuring that program leadership and teachers are dedicated, trained and receive the supports they need to fully engage families.

What's the Difference?

According to Larry Ferlazzo, "To create the kinds of school-family partnerships that raise student achievement, improve local communities, and increase public support, we need to understand the difference between family involvement and family engagement. One of the dictionary definitions of involve is "to enfold or envelope," whereas one of the meanings of engage is "to come together and interlock." Thus, involvement implies doing to; in contrast, engagement implies doing with.

A school striving for family involvement often leads with its <u>mouth</u>—identifying projects, needs, and goals and then telling parents how they can contribute. A school striving for parent engagement, on the other hand, tends to lead with its <u>ears</u>—listening to what parents think, dream, and worry about. <u>The goal of family engagement is not to serve clients but to gain partners</u>.

It's not that family involvement is bad. Almost all the research says that any kind of increased parent interest and support of students can help. But almost all the research also says that family engagement can produce even better results—for students, for families, for schools, and for their communities" (Ferlazzo & Hammond, 2009).

Tips to Turn Your Parental Involvement into Family Engagement!

- Survey your parents and use the data you receive (record the results)
- Ask parents what they think and incorporate their ideas (record in minutes/notes)
- Include workshops throughout the year on topics such as, FSA, Skyward, AR, STEM, etc.

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Do not forget to input your family engagement events as they happen, it will make your end of the year paperwork easier. Thank you!!

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Assigned to JENNIFER ELLIS -TRISHA JENNINGS