

Effective Practice For Creating Family-School Partnerships

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School Improvement and District Effectiveness



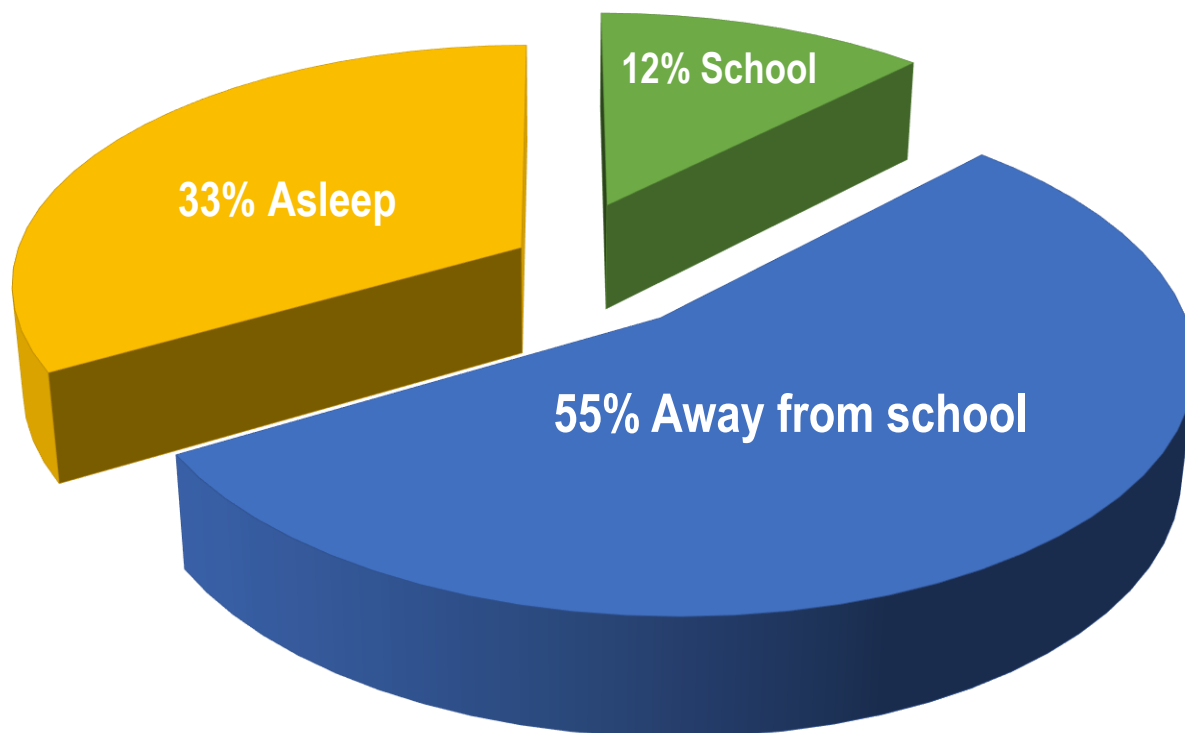
Navigating The Way for Effective Family Engagement



Navigating The Way for Effective Family Engagement



It's a Matter of Time



Based on 6 hours of instruction, 180 days per year, and 8 hours of sleep time.
(School = 1,080 Hours) (Sleep = 2,920 Hours) (Away from school = 4,760 Hours)
(Total Hours in a Year = 8,760)



The Response

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



Not a blueprint,
but a **COMPASS**



The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



THE CHALLENGE

Lack of opportunities for **School/Program Staff** to build the capacity for partnerships

Ineffective Family-School Partnerships

Lack of opportunities for **Families** to build the capacity for partnerships

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



OPPORTUNITY CONDITIONS

Process Conditions

- Linked to learning
- Relational
- Development vs. service orientation
- Collaborative
- Interactive

Organizational Conditions

- Systemic: across the organization
- Integrated: embedded in all programs
- Sustained: with resources and infrastructure

Opportunity Conditions

The Process Conditions



Linked to Learning:

Connected to teaching and learning goals for students



Relational:

Building respectful & trusting relationships between home & school



Developmental:

Building intellectual, social and human capital of stakeholders



Collective/Collaborative:

Learning is conducted in group versus individual settings



Interactive:

Skill mastery requires coaching and practice

Opportunity Conditions

The Organizational Conditions



Systemic:

Core component of educational goals



Integrated:

Embedded into structures and processes



Sustained

Operating with adequate resources and infrastructure support

Karen Mapp on Family Engagement: “Linked to Learning”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDPY1t8E6Cg>

Tool for Family School Partnerships





The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



POLICY AND PROGRAM GOALS

To build and enhance the capacity of staff/families in the “4 C” areas:

- Capabilities (skills and knowledge)
- Connections (networks)
- Cognition (beliefs, values)
- Confidence (self-efficacy)

Policy and Program Goals

Building Staff and Family Capacity



Capabilities



Cognition



Connections



Confidence

Building Adult Capabilities to Improve Child Outcomes: *A Theory of Change*



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urU-a_Fs5Y

Building Staff and Family Capacity

Capabilities



Families

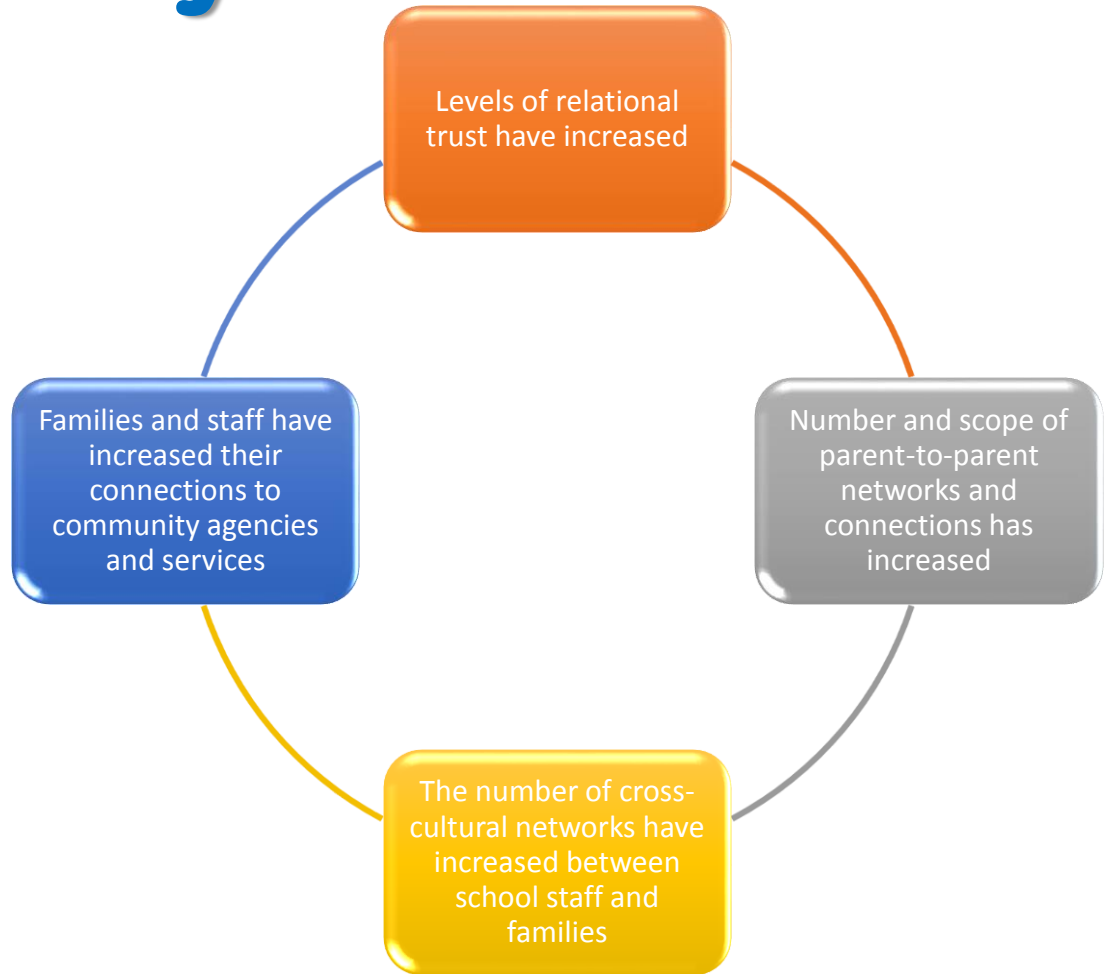
- Increased knowledge and understanding of what their children should know and be able to do
- Enhanced knowledge and understanding of educational policies and programs
- Enhanced their own skills associated with literacy and language acquisition, degree completion, and job skills

District & School Staff

- Increased knowledge of the assets and funds of knowledge of the families and communities they work in
- Increased knowledge and understanding of culturally responsive practices and pedagogy
- Increased portfolio of ways to reach out and build respectful and trusting relationships with families

Building Staff and Family Capacity

Connections



Building Staff and Family Capacity

Cognition



Families' belief about the role they play in their children's education have broadened to include multiple roles



District and school staff members' core beliefs about family engagement have been discussed and documented



Staff and families' belief systems about the value of home-school partnerships are linked to learning



Staff have a commitment to family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning

Building Staff and Family Capacity

Confidence



Families and school staff indicate an increase in their comfort level and sense of self-efficacy when engaging in home-school partnership events and activities



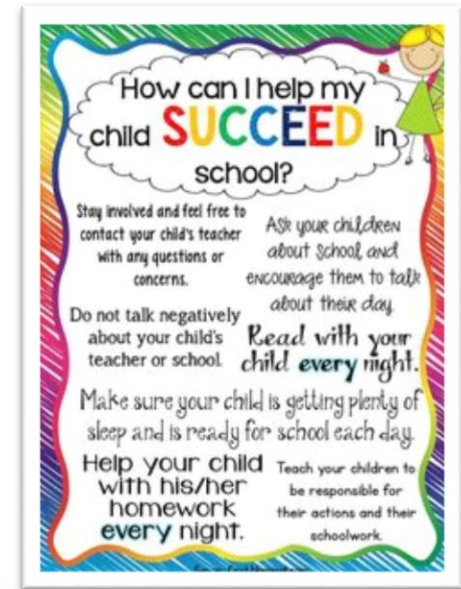
An increased number of families and staff from diverse backgrounds take on positions of leadership at the school or in the community



Building Capacity in Action

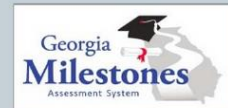


- Provide multiple opportunities for parents to learn about their child's education and ways they can support student learning at home
- Host student-centered activities and events that link parent engagement to student academic achievement
- Provide guidance to parents on how to communicate with teachers
- Hold group parent-teacher conferences that help parents to set and achieve goals
- Involve parents in test preparation activities for students
- Host student led parent-teacher conferences



Welcome Parents!

There's a new test in town.....



The Georgia Milestones
Assessment System

Building Capacity in Action



- Coordinate with teachers to provide academic resources, homework help, and learning strategies
- Develop interactive homework to encourage parent participation and two-way communication
- Help parents navigate student information systems, parent portals and helpful websites
- Give parents the information and resources that they seek in order to assist their student
- Provide classes to help parents increase their own literacy skills to better help their child
- Create a welcoming space in the school for families to access information and computers



Building Capacity in Action

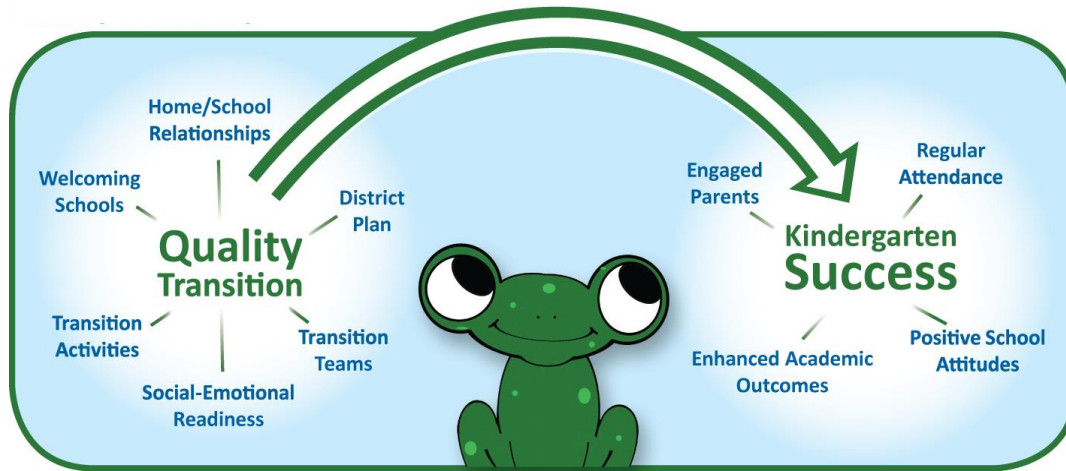


- Provide training to staff on innovative parent engagement practices as well as how to establish a welcoming school environment and culture for all families
- Utilize parents during staff meetings and to assist in the development of communications
- Provide faculty and staff with ongoing support and feedback and opportunities to practice their skills
- Integrate family engagement strategies across school initiatives and programs
- Share cultural differences, experiences and suggestions
- Recognize outstanding parent engagement practices



Family Friendly Schools

Building Capacity in Action



- Partner with Pre-K programs to plan and coordinate parent programs and events for new students
- Offer parents ideas and tips on how to prepare their children for the new school year
- Host events for parents of rising middle and high school students to experience the school environment
- Provide parents with valuable information to help them understand the school and district expectations
- Facilitate opportunities for parents of new students to network during school events or programs



Building Capacity in Action



- Provide frequent and advance notices to families using all methods of communication and technology
- Ensure communications are in a family-friendly language and translated, if necessary, so all parents can understand
- Hold events and meetings at various times and locations
- Use the community to spread information and messages
- Update the school website on a regular basis to reflect relative information that is user-friendly
- Record meetings for parents to access at a later date

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



FAMILY AND STAFF CAPACITY OUTCOMES

School and Program Staff who can

- Honor and recognize families' funds of knowledge
- Connect family engagement to student learning
- Create welcoming, inviting cultures



Effective Family-School Partnerships Supporting Student Achievement & School Improvement

Families who can negotiate multiple roles

- Supporters
- Encouragers
- Monitors
- Advocates
- Decision Makers
- Collaborators

Questions



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