Berryessa
Parent Engagement

September 29, 2011

Santa Clara County Office of Education

Outcomes

1. Deepen our understanding of how a parent engaged school results in improved student learning

2. Become familiar with Epstein's Framework for ***The Keys to Successful School, Family, and Community Partnerships***

3. Explore our options for building on current best practices involving school parent partnerships

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Best Practices

- <u>Research</u>

  - Partnerships decline

  - Community needs vary

  - Successful school based programs

  - Families

  - School site

- <u>Local Educational Agency Plan</u> (LEAP)

Parent Survey

- District/School

- ▶

School Plan

- Goal Area: School Climate

California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP 2009)

"How do I…" or "Why do I"

- Work with families to support student learning

- Engage local communities in support of the instructional program

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Community-Empowered Schools

Developed by Mary Ann Burke, Ed.D.
Director, Categorical and Special Projects

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Epstein's Framework
for Parent Involvement

TYPE 1: PARENTING: Assist families with understanding child and adolescent development and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level. Assist schools in understanding families.

TYPE 2: COMMUNICATING: Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.

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Epstein's Framework
for Parent Involvement

TYPE 3: VOLUNTEERING: Improve recruitment, training, and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audiences at the school or in other locations to support students and school programs.

TYPE 4: LEARNING AT HOME: Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum-linked activities and decisions.

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Epstein's Framework
for Parent Involvement

TYPE 5: DECISION-MAKING: Include families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy through PTA/PTO, school councils, committees, action teams, and other parent organizations.

TYPE 6: COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY: Coordinate community resources and services for, students, families, and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, and provide services to the community.

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Current Best Practices Around Parent Engagement

- Using Epstein's Framework as a reference (Yellow Handout)

- Take a yellow leaf and put your school initials on it

Current Best Practices around Parent Engagement

- Name/describe a parent engagement activity/program you have at your school

- Place your yellow leaf on the tree. Complete as many leaves as you can in 3 minutes

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Berryessa District's Focus for 2011-12

- **TYPE 1: PARENTING**

- **TYPE 3: VOLUNTEERING**

- **TYPE 4: LEARNING AT HOME**

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Type I: Parenting

- Provide parents with information on housing, nutrition, clothing, and safety.
- Aid teachers in understanding diverse family backgrounds, cultures, and linguistic needs.
- Support parents' understanding on age-related child development needs and milestones.
- Share effective strategies with parents in creating healthy home environments that support children's learning.

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Parenting-in-Action Programs

- Santa Clara County Office of Education's Trainer-of-Trainers Program

- Berryessa District's parent partnership programs

- Berryessa Parent University

- Group shares on added activities

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Type 4: Learning at Home

- Provide parents with strategies to help their children with homework and academic enrichment activities.
- Define academic standards and skills required for parents to support children's mastery of grade level academic subjects.
- Support parents in understanding and determining curricular-related decisions for children.
- Provide guidance to parents in supporting children's skill development and talents through home-based enrichment activities.

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Type 3: Volunteering

- Provide parents with opportunities to support staff and students as classroom aides, student tutors, coaches, and field trip chaperones.

- Provide extended school day academic enrichment opportunities for parents to support students' learning.

- Encourage parents to develop and attend students' assemblies, performances, sports events, and recognition celebrations.

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Added Parent Leadership Roles

- Parents support the School Site Council.

- Parents serve on advisory committees.

- Parents support partnerships for added services beyond the school day:
    - After-school programs
    - Weekend school-community service projects

- Parents leverage and provide resources.

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Planning for
Parent Engagement

- Consider current school site activities.

- Identify additional parent needs.

- Determine timeline.

- Explore community partnerships:
  - Santa Clara County Office of Education
  - Parent Project Senior
  - San Jose Police Department
  - Community agencies

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Teacher Considerations
for Parent Education and Partnership

- Consider how to effectively use parent volunteers:
  - At the school site
  - In the classroom

- Create a volunteer schedule of activities.

- Define jobs for parent volunteers.

- Integrate cultural enrichment activities.

- Use family literacy strategies.

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Multicultural Recruitment Considerations

- Consider cultural norms, values, and practices:
    - Styles of communicating
    - Structural barriers
- Recruit through appropriate communication channels:
    - Newsletters, phone calls, and parent coffees
    - Bulletins, flyers, and banners posted at schools
- Build a culture of caring.

How to Overcome Difficult Situations

- Teachers and parents must agree on participation assignments and schedules.

- Parents must acquire the skills to become effective volunteers.

- Impact can support parents' and a community's economic growth.

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Building on Current Best Practices

- Table Talk

- Focusing on Types: 1, 3, and 4

- Each table group place as many orange leaves on the tree as you can

- Don't forget your school initials

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Additional Community Resources

Added community resources include:

- Libraries provide curricular application of key concepts to support academic learning and enrichment activities.
- Community colleges and adult education programs provide child development activities and classes.
- Santa Clara County Office of Education provides parents with learning materials.
- International Reading Association website provides resources at www.reading.org
- Tumble Books website provides online books at www.tumblebooks.com

Resources & Credits

- Ecologies of Latino Parental Engagement and Impact on Community Development by Yvette King-Berg and Mary Ann Burke
- School, Family, and Community Partnerships by Joyce L. Epstein
- California's Common Core Content Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects
- California's Common Core Content Standards for Mathematics
- Photographs of student friendly academic standards and classroom displays were provided by Manuel De Vargas Elementary School in San Jose, CA
- Added resources can be provided by Mary Ann Burke, Ed.D., Director, Categorical and Special Projects, at maryann_burke@sccoe.org

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Site Data

- Review your site's school plan from 2010-2011

- Put a check next to the tasks your site should continue.

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Next Steps

- Think about the ideas that have been generated today.

- What ideas do you recommend to be considered for inclusion on your site's school plan?

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Announcements

- Parent Training Opportunities

- Parent Night

  - <u>How Parent's can Support Their Child's Learning</u>, October 20

  - <u>Bullying</u>, January 19

- Site meetings with Mary Ann

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