

Authentic Family Engagement Update Student Support Services



Report to Board of Education

Monday, April 13th



Standards for Dignity



Shaping and Maintaining a Culture of Dignity

- **Presume competence and positive intent**
- **Build partnerships and community**
- **Repair harm and restore relationships**
- **Affirm differences and uniqueness**

Cobb, F., & Krownapple, J. (2019). *Belonging through a culture of dignity: The keys to successful equity implementation*. Mimi & Todd Press.



Authentic Family Engagement




comparing approaches


vs.

Family Involvement

A school striving for family involvement **leads with its mouth**




Identifies projects, needs, and goals, then **tells parents how they can contribute**




Goal is to **serve clients**

Family Engagement


A school striving for family engagement **leads with its ears**



Listens to parents and what they think, dream, and worry about



Goal is to **gain partners**





Planning and Preparation

- The School Superintendents Association (AASA)
Fall 2025-Present
 - Authentic Family Engagement Cohort
- **Virtual Visit Welcome Center Monett Public Schools Missouri**
- **Learning Exchange With KCKPS Family and Community Engagement Team**



Family Engagement Intentions



1. Clarify the foundational understanding of ***family engagement***,
2. Adopt the ***Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships***,
3. Establish the Lawrence Public Schools ***Family Engagement Center***,



Lawrence Public Schools Family Engagement Center





The Four Dispositions of Dignity



Cobb, F., & Krownapple, J. (2019). *Belonging through a culture of dignity: The keys to successful equity implementation*. Mimi & Todd Press.



Engagement

“A full, equal, and **equitable** partnership among **families, educators,** and **community partners** to promote children’s learning and development, from **birth** through **college and career.**”

Mapp, K. L., Henderson, A. T., Cuevas, S., Franco, M., & Ewert, S. (2022). Everyone wins!: The evidence for family-school partnerships and implications for practice.

Core Belief #1

All families care and have dreams for their children.



Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., Strickland, C. S., & Meza, C. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*. The New Press.

Core Belief #2



All families have the capacity to support their children.



Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., Strickland, C. S., & Meza, C. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*. The New Press.



Core Belief #3



Family and school staff should be equal partners.



Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., Strickland, C. S., & Meza, C. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*. The New Press.

Core Belief #4



The responsibility for building and sustaining partnerships rest primarily with school staff and especially school leaders.



Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., Strickland, C. S., & Meza, C. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*. The New Press.

The Continuum of Family Partnership



“Engagement work, is joyful work!”

Dr. Karen Mapp



THE POWER OF ENGAGEMENT:

IMPACT ON STUDENTS & FAMILIES

1. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



Students with involved parents are **30% MORE LIKELY** to EARN HIGHER GRADES

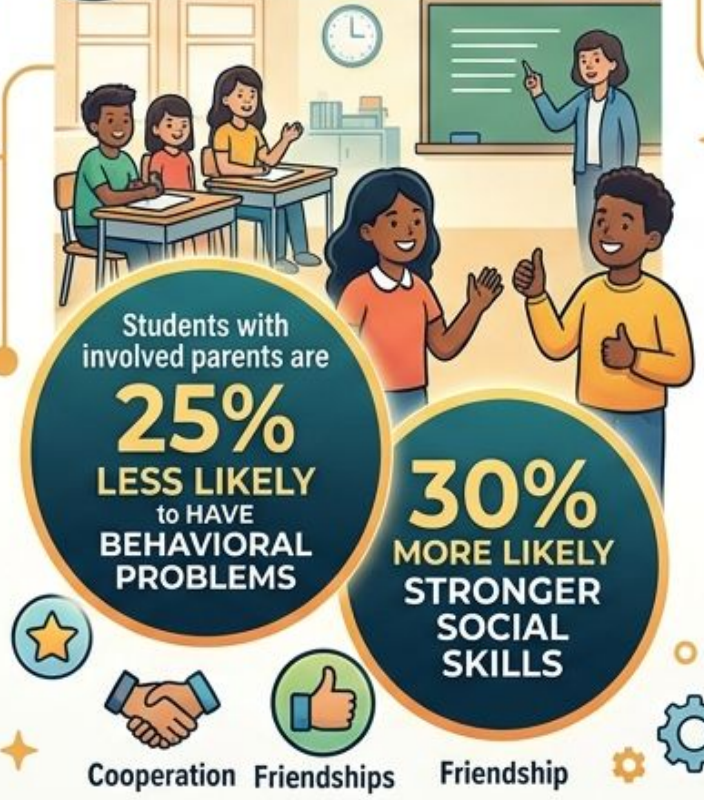
2. LITERACY & MATH GAINS



Students with involved parents are **40% MORE LIKELY** to READ and WRITE PROFICIENTLY

They are also **40% MORE LIKELY** to SUCCEED IN MATH

3. BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL SKILLS




Students with involved parents are **25% LESS LIKELY** to HAVE BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

30% MORE LIKELY STRONGER SOCIAL SKILLS

Cooperation Friendships Friendship

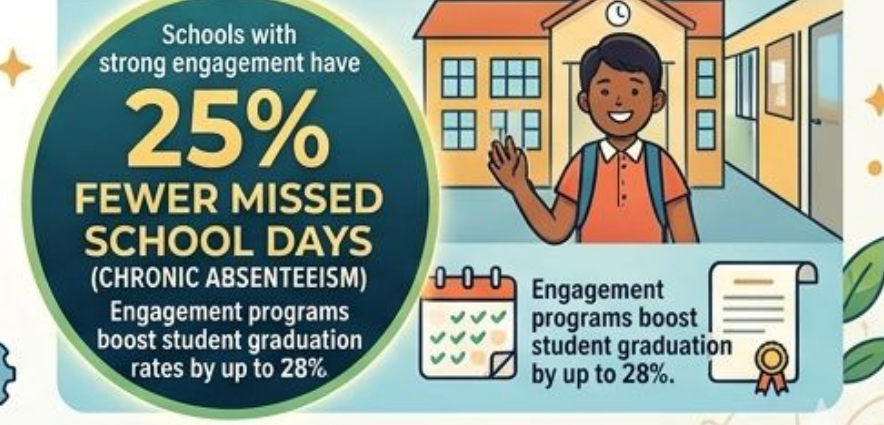
5. FAMILY BENEFITS



Involved parents are **50% MORE LIKELY** to attend school meetings and volunteer

Engaged families build a stronger school community (30% higher trust levels)

4. ATTENDANCE & RETENTION



Schools with strong engagement have **25% FEWER MISSED SCHOOL DAYS** (CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM)

Engagement programs boost student graduation rates by up to 28%



The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



Is a clear ***plan*** for how ***schools*** and ***families*** work together to ***support students.***



Rationale for Dual Capacity Building Framework for Family & School Partnerships



1. Strongly supports **equity**, ensuring every family feels welcomed and included
2. Uses **trauma-informed practices** to meet students and families where they are
3. Aligns with **restorative practices** to build positive school relationships
4. Works hand-in-hand with **Multi Tiered Systems of Support** to provide tiered academic and behavioral supports
5. Promotes **culturally responsive/relevant** modalities

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships

(Version 2)



Highlights of Next Steps:



Increase Building Level Leader Capacity:

Critical Importance of Family Engagement

Understanding Parent Perceptions

Supporting Developmental Stages of Children

Impact on Educators

Educational Leadership and Family Engagement

Strategic Planning and Sustainability

Opportunities for Professional Learning:

Everyone wins!: The evidence for family-school partnerships and implications for practice.

Dual capacity-building framework for family-school partnerships (Version 2.0)

Mindful Inquiry

Curriculum Connections with Teaching and Learning

Engage, listen and learn with our current supports

School Teams and Programs

Title Requirements



Coming Soon: Lawrence Public Schools Family Engagement Center



Parenting education and family learning opportunities for all Lawrence Public School Families

- Developmental Stages of Children
- Academic and Technology Supports
- Connections to Community Services
- Parent Networks
- Health and Wellness
- New to school district engagement

Goal to provide cohesion to family engagement across all district buildings

Reference and Research List

AASA, The School Superintendents Association. (2026, March 2–4). *Rooted in relationship summit: Authentic family engagement certificate program* [Conference session]. Miami, FL, United States.

Ferlazzo, L., & Hammond, L. A. (2009). *Building parent engagement in schools*.

Henderson, A. T., Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., & Davies, D. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*.

Mapp, K. L., & Bergman, E. (2019). *Dual capacity-building framework for family-school partnerships (Version 2)*. Dual Capacity. <https://www.dualcapacity.org/>

Mapp, K. L., Henderson, A. T., Cuevas, S., Franco, M., & Ewert, S. (2022). *Everyone wins!: The evidence for family-school partnerships and implications for practice*.

Mitchell, T. (2025, December 17). *Dual Capacity-Building Framework for family-school partnerships: A 6-page overview*. Lawrence Public Schools USD 497.

[DC-BF & Cohort Overview](#). Lawrence Public Schools USD 497





Behavioral/Transactional Models (Parent-Teacher Communication)

- [Communicating With Parents 2.0 \(ERIC article\)](#)
- [Models of Communication \(EBSCO overview\)](#)
- [From Communication to Collaboration \(two-way partnerships article\)](#)

Coalition for Community Schools (CCS) Model

- [Community Schools Forward: Essentials for Community School Transformation \(Framework PDF\)](#)
- [Framework: Essentials for Community School Transformation](#)
- [Community Schools Toolkit](#)

★ The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships

- [The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships \(video\)](#)
- [Dual Capacity-Building Framework official site \(Version 2\)](#)
- [Dual Capacity Research Summary \(50+ years of studies\)](#)
- [Partners in Education A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships](#)

Epstein's Six Types of Involvement

- [Epstein's Framework of Six Types of Involvement \(PDF\)](#)
- [EBSCO Research Starter on Epstein's Model](#)

Harvard Family Research Project / Family-School Partnership Model

- [Harvard Family Research Project overview and resources](#)
- [Research Supporting Family-School Partnerships \(HFRP summary PDF\)](#)
- [Beyond Random Acts: Family, School, and Community Engagement \(HFRP framework citation\)](#)