Parent Engagement Part 2: Trust, Relationships, & Valuing Education Together

March 6th 2019
4PM LHS Media Center

What the Committee put in motion last meeting

- We honed in on focusing on parent engagement as a Committee to look for three things long term:
  - Building More Trust with Parents/Guardians (= higher engagement + stronger relationships)
  - Know our Parents/Guardians Better (= higher engagement + stronger relationships)
  - With more trust and knowledge of our parents we want to find ways to value education together with them to benefit the students.

- We had Homework where we listed the "events" that turn out the most parents in each building, and teased out sample questions we want to ask them (in the future) to better understand them and what they want from us.   C3 HW for March 6th Meeting

Agenda for Today

1) **Look over our homework** - we know when we get good turnout, but we don't know what we want to ask parents yet.
2) **Jigsaw the BlackBoard Report** - it's good to understand communication and what parents might want.

1) **Draft Questions** of how to better understand our parents and what they want from us - Communication, Involvement, Reinforcement of School at Home, Potential Partnerships.
2) Plan Next Steps and wait for EAB to give us Best Practices Report:)

BlackBoard JigSaw

Each Group Reads a Little Bit, then Shares out to the Whole Group.

Group 1 - Pages 2 to 6

Group 2 - Pages 7 to 13 (Lots of Charts and Pictures)

Group 3 - Pages 14 to 19

What did we learn that might be applicable to Londonderry?

What do we want to know more about our parents/guardians?

(1) Communication

Consistency in Tools - How to Reach Out to Teachers - How Parents want information pushed out, How Parents want to talk about student specific issues with teachers.

Clear District Wide Messages Sent out - and What do Parents want to hear from us.

What does engagement look like at the middle and high school? What should it look like and get them ready for the transition from elementary to middle, then to High School.

The balance between autonomy and making sure you there when you need them:) (Avoiding helicopters . . .)

Clear systems on how to spread information and Ecosystems.

Family Ambassadors - Get the PTAs

School District Calendar that Involves All Schools

What is our district message we always want parents to hear???   How do we communicate well during transitions??

Ohio - Resources Continued - Family Engagement and Support

Ohio offers us many resources to think through, but as a Committee member please read through the "Family Engagement and Support" Section and be ready to discuss some of your key takeaways at our meeting. (There will be paper copies of the document at our Jan. 16th Meeting)

Looking through their "Family Engagement and Support" document you will find:

- Table 7.1 - Why we would want to pursue deeper family engagement.
- Table 7.3 - Comprehensive approach to a design strategy for a full family engagement strategic plan.
- Pages 7.9 and 7.10 - School Based Family Engagement vs Community Based Family Engagement.
- Tables 7.6 to 7.9 - Barriers for Family Engagement.

Resources from January Meeting

Resources and Research: Ohio - Community Schools

"Community Schools" are an intentional effort - first started in Cincinnati - to center the public school as the main resource hub of the community. (Mostly to better help communities in need) From that "Community Schools" Model - Ohio has an impressive collection of resources, and best practices to share:

[Models for Family and Community Engagement](#)

Models for Family and Community Engagement

The following are researched-based family and community engagement models to help school districts create effective practices.

The Ohio Collaboration Model for School Improvement makes school improvement a family and community priority. It is designed to help Ohioans close achievement gaps, increase graduation rates and improve the well-being of children. Each chapter of the model is presented below in Adobe Acrobat PDF files

» Contributors and Table of Contents
» Introduction
» Getting Started
» Collaboration and Collaborative Leadership
» Designing Successful Programs and Services
» Academic Learning
» Youth Development
» Family Engagement and Support
» Health and Social Services
» Community Partnerships
» Evaluation
» Planning for Sustainability
» Conclusion
» Appendix A - Design Principles Self Assessment
» Appendix B - Resources

Resources from EAB

They are a research and consulting firm that we started work with this year. We have access to all the research and reports they have done, the two big projects they do each year K to 12. They also do "on demand" research projects for us. They will not be done with our request around best practices with family engagement until our February Meeting, but they sent us two high quality sources to start with before we get a more comprehensive report.

Trends in Community Engagement - Blackboard

US DOE - Family and Community Engagement - Toolkits:
Part 1 - Building and Understanding of Family and Community Engagement
Part 2 - Building a Cultural Bridge
Part 3 - Building Trusting Relationships . . .
Part 4 - Engaging All in Data Conversations

They also sent us work they did for colleges a few years ago who have the opposite problem - too many, super involved parents:)