Access 100 Great Ideas!

Mater Academy in Hialeah, Florida, knows how to make parents feel welcome, offering Cafecito in the Car Line!
# Index

**Parent Activity Handbook**  
100 Standards-Aligned Family Engagement Activities for Schools (Beta Version)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcoming Committee for Families</td>
<td>Cafecito in the Car Line (Cover Story)</td>
<td>Parental Involvement Report Card</td>
<td>PTO Informational Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast or Coffee &amp; Pastries</td>
<td>Coffee with the Principal</td>
<td>Family Engagement Workshop</td>
<td>Inventory Volunteer Interests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental Involvement Toolbox</td>
<td>Volunteer Appreciation and Res. Fair</td>
<td>Attendance and Mental Health</td>
<td>Title I Parent Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metrics: Schools that Count</td>
<td>Family School Spirit Day</td>
<td>Family Math Night</td>
<td>Walk and Roll to School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family School Spirit Day</td>
<td>Parent Orientation Day</td>
<td>Celebrate Reading</td>
<td>Town Hall Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Red Carpet Treatment!</td>
<td>The Red Carpet Treatment!</td>
<td>Bedtime Story Night</td>
<td>Equity and Inclusion Task Force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrate Dads’ Involvement</td>
<td>Celebrate Dads’ Involvement</td>
<td>Shine-A-Light Night</td>
<td>Parent University Sessions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Engagement Game for Change</td>
<td>Family Engagement Game for Change</td>
<td>Mentoring and Tutoring</td>
<td>School Governance Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Parent Potluck</td>
<td>International Parent Potluck</td>
<td>Financial Literacy Workshops</td>
<td>Budget Planning and Review Comm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Movie Night</td>
<td>Family Movie Night</td>
<td>Offer Variety</td>
<td>Curriculum Advisory Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Parent Resource Fair</td>
<td>Virtual Parent Resource Fair</td>
<td>Come to School w/Your Student Day</td>
<td>Assessment and Testing Review Panel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Art Showcase Event</td>
<td>Family Art Showcase Event</td>
<td>TikTok Gratitude Contest</td>
<td>Health and Wellness Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent-Teacher Meet &amp; Greet</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Meet &amp; Greet</td>
<td>School Physical Activity Program</td>
<td>Library, Tech. or Media Ctr. Adv. Board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Technology Night</td>
<td>Family Technology Night</td>
<td>Science Fair for Families</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability Team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Communication App Training</td>
<td>Parent Communication App Training</td>
<td>Gardening and Nutrition Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podcast Series on Parenting Tips</td>
<td>Podcast Series on Parenting Tips</td>
<td>Career Day for Parents and Students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host an Open House</td>
<td>Host an Open House</td>
<td>STEM Challenges at Home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-to-Home Communication</td>
<td>School-to-Home Communication</td>
<td>Cultural Heritage Night</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental Involvement Checklist</td>
<td>Parental Involvement Checklist</td>
<td>Study Skills Workshop for Parents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Bag Lunches</td>
<td>Brown Bag Lunches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate Your Efforts!</td>
<td>Evaluate Your Efforts!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brand and Communicate School’s Event</td>
<td>Brand and Communicate School’s Event</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Parent Workshops</td>
<td>Virtual Parent Workshops</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly Parent-Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>Quarterly Parent-Teacher Conferences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multilingual Parent Information Sessions</td>
<td>Multilingual Parent Information Sessions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental Involvement Policy Meeting</td>
<td>Parental Involvement Policy Meeting</td>
<td>District Advisory Council</td>
<td>Action Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Advisory Council</td>
<td>District Advisory Council</td>
<td>Parent Leadership Symposium</td>
<td>Issue A Proclamation!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Leadership Symposium</td>
<td>Parent Leadership Symposium</td>
<td>Civic Engagement Workshop</td>
<td>Organize a rally or a Parade!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement Workshop</td>
<td>Civic Engagement Workshop</td>
<td>Start PTA Chapter</td>
<td>Awards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start PTA Chapter</td>
<td>Start PTA Chapter</td>
<td>Student Showcase Night</td>
<td>Pre-K Beautification Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Showcase Night</td>
<td>Student Showcase Night</td>
<td>Student-Led Conferences</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability Projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student-Led Conferences</td>
<td>Student-Led Conferences</td>
<td>Education Policy Forum</td>
<td>Community Storytelling Event</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Policy Forum</td>
<td>Education Policy Forum</td>
<td>Parent Advocacy Training</td>
<td>Involve Parents in School Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Advocacy Training</td>
<td>Parent Advocacy Training</td>
<td>School Board Meetings</td>
<td>Theme-based Student Essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Board Meetings</td>
<td>School Board Meetings</td>
<td>School Improvement Plan Review</td>
<td>Partnership with Libraries for Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Improvement Plan Review</td>
<td>School Improvement Plan Review</td>
<td>Curriculum Development Committees</td>
<td>Cultural Festivals and Performance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development Committees</td>
<td>Curriculum Development Committees</td>
<td>Special Education Advisory Board</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Advisory Board</td>
<td>Special Education Advisory Board</td>
<td>Parent Focus Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Focus Groups</td>
<td>Parent Focus Groups</td>
<td>Bullying Prevention Task Force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying Prevention Task Force</td>
<td>Bullying Prevention Task Force</td>
<td>Educational Equity Task Force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© Copyright 2024 Project Appleseed All Rights Reserved.
Forward
Welcome to the "Parent Activity Handbook: 100 Standards-Aligned Family Engagement Activities for Schools" brought to you by Project Appleseed! This year marks a special milestone as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of our signature event, National Parental Involvement Day, established in 1994 as part of our advocacy for parental involvement provisions in the renewal of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Why Family Engagement Matters
High-impact family engagement activities serve as a cornerstone for student achievement and holistic development. By involving families in educational endeavors, we achieve several critical objectives:

Improved Academic Outcomes
Studies consistently show that students whose families are engaged in their education perform better academically. This effect is particularly pronounced for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, underscoring the importance of inclusive and equitable engagement strategies.

Enhanced Communication
Family engagement activities facilitate open lines of communication between schools and families. Effective communication ensures that families are informed and empowered to support their children's learning journey.

Building Strong Relationships
Engagement initiatives foster relationships between schools, families, and communities. Strong relationships build trust, which is essential for collaborative efforts aimed at student success. (Continued)
Increased Involvement
Engaged families are more likely to participate in school events, volunteer, and actively contribute to decision-making processes. This involvement strengthens the overall fabric of the school community.

Effective family engagement goes beyond just implementing proven strategies. It’s about fostering a culture of enthusiasm and excitement about parenting within the school and the wider school community. By celebrating and prioritizing the crucial role of families in their children’s education, we can inspire and mobilize the entire community to help every student succeed.

Project Appleseed’s Six Slices of Family Engagement aligns with National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. Project Appleseed is committed to aligning its efforts with the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships established by the PTA. These standards provide a framework for cultivating effective partnerships between schools, families, and communities. By adhering to these standards, we empower stakeholders with the tools and resources necessary to create equitable and inclusive educational environments.

Empowering Communities for Student Success
As you explore this handbook, you’ll discover a wealth of innovative ideas and activities spanning various dimensions of family engagement, from welcoming initiatives to collaborative community endeavors. Each activity is designed to strengthen the educational ecosystem and foster a sense of shared responsibility for student achievement.

We invite you to leverage this handbook as a catalyst for change in your school community. Whether you are an educator seeking to enhance parental involvement or a parent eager to contribute to your child’s educational journey, this resource offers practical insights and actionable strategies to promote collaboration and drive positive outcomes.

Together, let’s embrace the transformative power of family engagement and pave the way for every child’s success. Thank you for your dedication to advancing education and fostering inclusive school environments.

Make every day parental involvement day in America.

Sincerely,

Kevin Walker
President & founder
Our hallmark events, National Parental Involvement Day and Public School Volunteer Week are the inspiration behind thousands of family engagement activities. They have been enthusiastically celebrated by schools, school districts, PTAs, PTOs, every state education agency, nonprofit organizations, and the U.S. Department of Education. In this handbook, we have compiled a selection of 100 outstanding school activities that were conducted during these signature events. These activities can be enjoyed at any time to honor and emphasize the vital role of families in their children’s education.

Slice 1: Welcome All Families

The school treats families as valued partners in their child’s education and facilitates a sense of belonging in the school community.

Goal 1. Build a Community of Belonging: When families engage with the school and PTA/PTO, do they feel respected, understood, and connected to the school?

School & Parent Group Indicators:
- Learn about families and foster respect.
- Provide time, training, and resources for relationship-building.
- Facilitate opportunities for restoration and connection, especially with historically marginalized families and students.
- Use culturally and linguistically responsive engagement practices.
- Invite families to contribute to the school community.

Goal 2. Create an Inclusive Environment: Do the school’s and PTA/PTO's efforts encourage engagement with and among the diversity of families in the community?

School & Parent Group Indicators:
- Encourage school staff to see engaging all families as part of their responsibilities.
- Create an accessible, family-friendly campus and/or virtual school
- Track family engagement data and regularly examine it to identify gaps in access.
- Learn about and remove barriers for families to participate fully.
Welcoming Committee for New Families
The Welcoming Committee for New Families is a caring and proactive initiative aimed at ensuring a seamless transition for families who are new to our school community. Led by our dedicated committee members, this program offers personalized support and guidance to newcomers, helping them feel welcomed and valued from the very beginning.

Our committee members are friendly and approachable, ready to assist new families with any questions or concerns they may have. They provide introductions to key staff members, including teachers, administrators, and support personnel, fostering important connections and easing the process of getting acquainted with the school environment.

In addition to personal introductions, our committee offers valuable information about school programs, extracurricular activities, and community events. This ensures that new families are well-informed and empowered to make informed decisions about their child's education and involvement in school life.

Cafecito in the Car Line (Cover Story)
Step into our inviting "Cafecito in the Car Line" event, where educators warmly greet parents with freshly brewed coffee as they drop off their children. This thoughtful initiative not only offers a delightful morning treat but also encourages parental involvement and fosters a strong sense of community within our school. Join us for a special moment of connection and start your day with a warm welcome and a cup of joy!

Mater Academy in Hialeah, Florida, knows how to make parents feel welcome, offering Cafecito in the Car Line!
**Breakfast or Coffee & Pastries**

Host an event to announce a new PTA or to boost membership in your PTA. The PTA is a key organization to connect parents, especially new parents to your school with other parents and community members.

- Set up tables to welcome families and community members to your school. Make available membership forms to enroll new PTA members.

- Make special name tags for members that say, “Ask me about the PTA” or “Join the PTA Today”

- Provide “Welcome Bags” with school information, PTA brochures, and goodies gathered from local businesses or organizations. Include a bookmark with the dates of PTA meetings and special PTA sponsored school events.

- Have a chart with a list of volunteer opportunities so parents can take the Pledge and sign up to help. Man the table with a volunteer to encourage sign-ups!

**Coffee with the Principal**

This is an engaging school activity that provides parents and guardians with a unique opportunity to connect with the school's principal in a relaxed and informal setting. This event typically takes place in a comfortable space within the school, such as the library or cafeteria, and is designed to encourage open dialogue and foster positive relationships between school leadership and families.

During "Coffee with the Principal," parents are invited to join the principal for a casual morning or afternoon session over coffee and light refreshments. The atmosphere is welcoming and conducive to conversation, allowing parents to ask questions, share feedback, and express any concerns they may have about their child's education or school environment.

The principal may use this time to discuss important school updates, upcoming events, academic programs, or initiatives. It's also an excellent opportunity for the principal to listen to parents' perspectives, gain insights into their experiences with the school, and address any specific issues or inquiries raised by attendees.

This activity not only strengthens the relationship between families and school leadership but also demonstrates the principal's commitment to parent engagement and collaboration. By fostering open communication and partnership, "Coffee with the Principal" contributes to a supportive school community where families feel valued and involved in their children's education.
Parental Involvement Toolbox
Unlock the potential of parent engagement in your school community with the Family Engagement Toolbox. Our comprehensive program is designed to help schools mobilize high-impact family engagement to improve student outcomes. Each toolbox includes a branded Parent Engagement Pledge and Parent Engagement Report Card, tailored to your school’s logo. Our research-based and effective model meets district, state and Title I ESSA mandates and helps schools organize parent responsibility effectively. Events and Activities: National Parental Involvement Day & Public School Volunteer Week, to increase the involvement of the parents in the school community. The Red Carpet Treatment - Welcome Atmosphere Walk-Through, to create a welcoming environment for parents and students.

Volunteer Appreciation and Resources Fair
This is a festive school event that celebrates and supports the dedicated volunteers who contribute to the school community. Held in a central location like the gymnasium or cafeteria, the fair features:

- Recognition Ceremony: Volunteers are individually thanked and honored for their efforts.
- Information Booths: Displays provide details on upcoming volunteer opportunities and school programs.
- Workshops and Training: Sessions offer valuable insights into volunteer best practices and school policies.
- Networking: Volunteers connect with each other and school representatives.
- Refreshments and Entertainment: Enjoyable refreshments and light entertainment add to the celebratory atmosphere.
Metrics: Schools that Count
Schools can count the number of parent and family volunteers by using a standard hourly rate to calculate the value of the time contributed by parents and families. The average value of volunteer time is $29.95 an hour. This is based on the Independent Sector's value of volunteer time, which is an annually updated estimate of the average hourly value of volunteer time in the United States.

By tracking the number of volunteer hours contributed by parents and family members and multiplying that number by the hourly rate, schools can estimate the monetary value of the time these volunteers have donated to the school. For example, if a parent volunteers for 10 hours in a month, that would be equivalent to a donation of nearly $300 based on the hourly rate of $29.95.
Family School Spirit Day
Join us for a day dedicated to fostering parental involvement and strengthening our school community! Family School Spirit Day is not only an opportunity to showcase your school pride but also a chance for parents to actively participate in their child's educational journey. At this event, parents are encouraged to join in the fun alongside their children, engaging in various games, activities, and friendly competitions. By actively participating in these activities, parents not only bond with their children but also become more connected to the school community.

Family School Spirit Day serves as a platform for parents to play an active role in shaping the school environment. Through their involvement, parents contribute to creating a positive and supportive atmosphere that benefits everyone in the school community.

Parent Orientation Day
Our comprehensive Parent Orientation Day provides new families with essential information about our school culture, curriculum, and resources. It's an opportunity to connect with staff and fellow parents, fostering a sense of belonging and support.

By encouraging parents to take the Parent Engagement Pledge, schools can increase the number of volunteers and the total value of volunteer time contributed. This can have a positive impact on the school community, as it fosters a sense of collaboration, shared responsibility for the success of the students and accountability for all.

The Red Carpet Treatment!
Welcome families to your school with the Red Carpet Treatment, an innovative tool designed to create a more welcoming environment for all families. As part of the Family Engagement Toolbox, the Red Carpet Treatment is a family-friendly walk-through process that brings educators, parents, community members, school board members, and administrators together to identify ways to improve the school for families.

By taking the time to walk through the school and consider how it looks and feels through the lenses of all families, including parents of children with disabilities, you can create an environment that truly welcomes and supports every family. This toolkit provides a step-by-step guide to conduct the walk-through, and the checklists and questions to use during the process.
Celebrate Dads' Involvement
One way to engage fathers and male role models is through "Donuts for Dads" events. Invite fathers and other male role models to come to the school for a morning treat and a chance to spend time with their child in the classroom. Encourage teachers to plan activities for fathers to participate in alongside their children, such as reading a book together or working on a craft project.

Not only will this create a positive and fun atmosphere for the students, but it will also give fathers an opportunity to see firsthand the work their children are doing and how they can support their learning at home. Be sure to promote the event through flyers and social media and reach out to local media outlets to get the word out to the community.

Family Engagement Game for Change
Join us for an exciting evening of fun and learning with our special "Game Night" for parents! As part of this engaging event, we are thrilled to introduce the Family Engagement Game—a unique opportunity for parents to come together, whether in-person or online, and embark on a journey of meaningful discussions, collaborative problem-solving, and interactive learning experiences.

At "Game Night," parents will have the chance to immerse themselves in a series of captivating games designed to spark insightful conversations and promote active participation. Whether it's through thought-provoking discussions, hands-on activities, or friendly competitions, participants will be encouraged to explore new ideas, reflect on their experiences, and embrace innovative approaches—all in a fun and supportive environment.

The overarching goal of "Game Night" is to provide parents with a platform to collaborate, share their perspectives, and co-create learning experiences that resonate with their unique backgrounds and expertise. By integrating gaming into the framework of professional development, we aim to empower parents to become active contributors to their child's educational journey, fostering stronger connections between home and school.

As endorsed by the Global Family Research Project, "Game Night" serves as a powerful catalyst for promoting family engagement and nurturing a culture of continuous learning within our school community. We invite you to join us for an unforgettable evening of camaraderie, exploration, and growth at our upcoming "Game Night" event!

International Parent Potluck
Culturally and linguistically responsive family engagement practices recognize and respect the cultural and linguistic diversity of families, and aim to create a welcoming and inclusive environment that encourages parental involvement.

When educators and schools use culturally and linguistically responsive family engagement practices, they demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of families' cultural backgrounds and linguistic needs. This, in turn, can help to build trust and create stronger relationships between families and schools, which can lead to increased parental involvement.

For example, when schools provide materials and resources in families' native languages, parents who may not be fluent in English are better able to understand the curriculum and communicate with teachers.
Family Movie Night
Join us for an evening under the stars with popcorn and family-friendly films. This event promotes bonding and relaxation, creating cherished memories for families within our school community.

Virtual Parent Resource Fair
Explore a wealth of educational resources and community services at our Parent Resource Fair. From tutoring programs to health and wellness resources, parents discover valuable tools to support their child's academic and personal growth. Take a virtual journey through our school from the comfort of your home. Our Virtual School Tour provides insights into our facilities, programs, and extracurricular offerings, fostering a deeper understanding of our educational environment.

Family Art Showcase Event
Our Family Art Showcase Event is a wonderful celebration of creativity and talent within our school community. This special occasion is designed to shine a spotlight on student artwork while also showcasing collaborative family projects that highlight the importance of self-expression and artistic exploration.

During the Family Art Showcase, students' creative endeavors take center stage, providing a platform for them to share their artistic achievements with peers, teachers, and families. It's a moment of pride and accomplishment as the school community comes together to appreciate the diverse talents of our young artists.

In addition to displaying student artwork, the event features collaborative family projects that reflect the spirit of teamwork and creativity shared between parents and their children. These joint efforts not only demonstrate the power of family involvement in education but also reinforce the value of artistic expression as a means of connection and communication.

The Family Art Showcase Event is more than just an exhibition—it's a celebration of individuality, imagination, and the joy of creating art. Through this event, we aim to inspire a lifelong appreciation for the arts and encourage every member of our school community to embrace their creative potential. Join us in celebrating the artistic achievements of our students and families!
Parent-Teacher Meet & Greet

Parent-Teacher Meet & Greet events provide a valuable opportunity for parents to establish direct connections with their child's teachers in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. These gatherings are designed to foster open communication and collaboration between parents and educators, ultimately enhancing the academic experience for students.

During a Parent-Teacher Meet & Greet, parents have the chance to engage in meaningful conversations with teachers about their child's academic progress, goals, and any concerns they may have. This direct interaction allows parents to gain insights into their child's learning environment and educational journey.

The event encourages proactive discussions on strategies for academic success, enabling parents and teachers to work together to support the student's development. By sharing perspectives and exchanging ideas, parents can contribute to tailored approaches that meet their child's unique needs.

Beyond academic discussions, Parent-Teacher Meet & Greet events promote relationship-building and trust between families and educators. Building strong connections between home and school positively impacts student motivation and achievement.
Slice 2: Communicate Effectively

The school supports staff to engage in proactive, timely, and two-way communication so that all families can easily understand and contribute to their child’s educational experience.

Goal 1. Exchange Information Between School and Families: Are families able to receive and share information in culturally and linguistically sustaining ways?

School & Parent Group Indicators:
- Learn about and meet families’ communication preferences
- Address access by providing interpretation, translation, and/or accommodations.
- Coordinate information-sharing across communication outlets.
- Gather family input and report back with how input was used.
- Foster transparency and enable families to follow-up.
- Co-create engagement plans for times of crisis.

Goal 2. Facilitate Parent-Teacher Communication: Does the school and PTA/PTO promote communication between families and teachers?

School & Parent Group Indicators
- Co-develop communication expectations with families and staff.
- Provide time, training and resources for parent-teacher communication.
- Solicit teacher and family feedback on how communication is going and what could be improved.
Parent Book Club Discussions
Join fellow parents in stimulating discussions about books related to parenting, education, and personal growth. Our Parent Book Club promotes lifelong learning and meaningful connections among parents.

Family Technology Night
Discover the latest in educational technology and learn how to support your child’s digital learning journey. This interactive event equips parents with valuable insights and resources for navigating the digital age. Programs offered through everyoneon.org: Trainings for Individuals: We collaborate with community organizations, foundations, government, and other sectors to provide tailored digital skills training programs to communities. From high school students to parents and seniors, our training covers everything from computer setup and internet navigation to online banking and tech industry job preparation.

Parent Communication App Training
Learn how to effectively use our school communication app to stay informed about assignments, grades, and school updates. This training empowers parents to stay connected and engaged in their child’s educational experience.

Our parenting classes give parents the tools, skills and confidence to raise a healthy family:
blog.anybabycan.org/2018/11/05/pos...
#nationalparentalinvolvimentoayday #parenting #parentingclasses #family

Podcast Series on Parenting Tips
Tune in to our podcast series featuring expert advice and practical tips on parenting and family life. Listen and learn from insightful discussions that support your role as a parent and advocate for your child.

Host an open house
Hosting a successful school open house or parent night is a great way to connect with the parents of your students, familiarize them with your teaching style and classroom, and let them know what you expect from their children in the coming year. Additionally, it's an excellent opportunity to get parents involved with the school and volunteering. However, since open houses and parent nights typically have limited time, it's important to plan!
Home-to-School Communication
Promote parent engagement in school activities by creating opportunities for open communication and feedback. Encourage parents to share their thoughts and suggestions on school-related topics through various channels, such as suggestion boxes, surveys, focus groups, and online forums. Make it easy for parents to connect with the school and have their voices heard by providing clear and accessible ways for them to share their input. By actively seeking out and valuing parent feedback, schools can work towards creating a more inclusive and responsive environment for students and families.

Parental Involvement Checklist
Take the first step towards improving your school’s parent-school partnerships with Project Appleseed’s Parental Involvement Checklist. This valuable resource, available on our website, is designed to help you evaluate your school’s current efforts to reach out to parents and identify areas for improvement.

The checklist guides you through key questions to help you understand the effectiveness of your partnership’s practices at each grade level. It also helps you identify which practices are working well and which need improvement or should be added. Additionally, it encourages you to think about the long-term goals for your school’s family involvement practices, and how you envision them to look in three years from now.

Reaching Out to Parents Over Brown Bag Lunches
Bringing together parents, community members, and school administrators over a brown-bag lunch is a great way to foster better relationships and keep everyone informed. By inviting parents and community members to these informal gatherings, school administrators can gain valuable insights into the community and improve relations with parents.

Superintendents and principals have found that brown-bag lunch chats are an effective public relations program that provides an opportunity to give the school's perspective on issues and provide factual information. The informal setting allows for open and honest conversations and helps to break down barriers and build stronger connections between the school and community.

So why not try it out in your school or district? It's a simple, yet effective way to improve communication and understanding between the school and community. Reach out to parents and community members and invite them to a brown-bag lunch chat and see the positive impact it can have on your school and district.

Evaluate Your Efforts!
The five-item Parent Perceptions of Overall School Experiences Scale is a brief, universal measure of parents’ perceptions of their overall experiences with their children’s schools. Schools, parents, and community members may use this measure to assess parents’ needs and to advocate for necessary programmatic changes that serve parents and their children.

Provide open lines of communication for receiving comments and suggestions from parents on school related topics, and build the school’s capacity to route this information to the intended persons. Establish multiple mechanisms for gathering opinions from parents, students, and teachers, such as on-site suggestion boxes, annual parent surveys, random-sample parent phone surveys, parent/teacher focus groups, and school-sponsored parent blogs.
Brand and Communicate Your School's Event
Create a unique name for your National Parental Involvement Day & Public School Volunteer Week event that represents your school or community. For example, in Topeka, you could name the event "Topeka Parental Involvement Day" and "Topeka Public School Volunteer Week". Utilize different forms of communication to keep parents informed about health-related topics and events, such as flyers, memos, banners, signs, door hangers, newsletters, report cards, progress reports, postcards, letters, monthly calendars of events, websites, web boards, text messaging and email messages.

Virtual Parent Workshops
Enhance your parenting skills and engage in discussions on relevant topics through our virtual workshops. Join us online for interactive sessions designed to empower and support parents.

School Newsletter for Parents
Stay informed about school news and upcoming events through our monthly newsletter. It's a valuable resource for parents to stay connected and engaged in their child's educational journey.

Quarterly Parent-Teacher Conferences
Schedule more personalized meetings with teachers to discuss your child's progress and academic goals. Parent-Teacher Conferences promote collaboration and enable tailored support for student success.

Multilingual Parent Information Sessions
Attend sessions conducted in multiple languages to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all families. These sessions cover important topics and resources, fostering mutual understanding and support across diverse parent communities.
Slice 3: Support Student Success

The school builds the capacity of families and educators to continuously collaborate to support students’ academic, social, and emotional learning.

**Goal 1. Team-Up for Student Success:** Are families, students and educators on the same page about how students are progressing?

**School & Parent Group Indicators**
- Support educators to partner with families and students to set social, emotional, and academic goals.
- Provide an understandable and accurate picture of student progress, using multiple measures (classwork, rubrics, observations, assessments, etc.)
- Ensure accessible, regular, two-way communication about student learning and well-being.

**Goal 2. Support Learning by Engaging Families:** Are families valued partners in their children’s learning at home and at school?

**School & Parent Group Indicators**
- Get to know students and families and their strengths.
- Invite families to contribute to classroom learning.
- Provide families guidance and activities to support social, emotional, and academic learning at home.
- Promote learning and enrichment outside of school.
- Help families and student’s plan.
Getting Started Ask Families to Take the Pledge!

Our comprehensive Parent Engagement Pledge asks parents to volunteer 10 hours each in their local school and spend 15 minutes each night reading with their children, creating a positive impact in the education of their children. But the benefits don’t stop there, by distributing the pledge to parents during parent-teacher conferences or teacher home visits, you can achieve a response rate approaching 80%. But the real value comes from the economic impact of the pledge. According to U.S. Department of Education data, 43% of K-12 parents volunteer at school. Independent Sector has announced that the estimated value of a volunteer hour in the United States reached $29.95 in 2022. That means, that each parent who takes the Parent Engagement Pledge is generating $300.00 in volunteer impact. Imagine the impact if 43% of the families in your community volunteered in your schools by taking the pledge! That's an impact of over $100,000 for your school. The cost of the pledge is only $400.00 for a Family Engagement Toolbox, a small price to pay for such a significant impact on your school community.

Parental Involvement Report Card

Project Appleseed offers the Parental Involvement Report Card as a self-assessment tool to help parents evaluate their involvement in their child's education. The report card, consisting of 30 questions, can serve as a guide for parents to identify ways they can support their child both at home and at school. Schools can easily distribute the report card to all families by purchasing Project Appleseed's Parental Involvement Toolbox. This tool is an excellent way to encourage parents to be more involved in their child's education, and it's a simple and easy way to get started.
Traveling Family Engagement Workshop
Promote Project Appleseed's family engagement workshops for schools. Our expert, Kevin Walker, will lead the training and provide evidence-based strategies for involving parents in their child's education.

From teacher home visits, parent-teacher conferences to volunteer opportunities, learn how to effectively communicate and collaborate with families to improve student success. Utilize our resources, such as the Parent Engagement Pledge and Inventory of Volunteer Interests, to tailor activities and involve parents in unique ways. Sign up for our workshops now to strengthen family-school partnerships in your community.

Attendance and Mental Health
We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Parent Advisory Council event, where we will delve into two crucial topics: attendance and mental health. Join us on National Parental Involvement Day as we explore strategies to support our children's well-being.

During this engaging session, expert speakers will share insights on how attendance positively impacts academic success and overall development. We will also discuss practical ways to address barriers to regular attendance and strengthen our children's commitment to their education.

Furthermore, we will shed light on the vital topic of mental health, providing guidance on recognizing signs of distress, fostering resilience, and accessing resources available within our community. Your voice matters, and we value your input! Join us to collaborate, share experiences, and collectively create a supportive environment for our children. Together, let's empower our children to thrive academically and emotionally!

Family Math Night
This event is designed to promote engagement between parents and children, and the games are suitable for all ages, ensuring that everyone can participate. Whether you are at home or at school, you can enjoy these games and help your child learn in a fun and engaging way.

So come join us for a Great Day of games and celebration, as we recognize the importance of parental involvement in education. Let's make this National Parental Involvement Day one to remember!
Celebrate Reading
Make reading a fun and engaging part of everyday life with National Parental Involvement Day & Public School Volunteer Week activities that promote community literacy. Whether you organize storytelling nights, invite guest authors and poets to share their work, create read-aloud programs, host book fairs and drives, or plan family literacy nights, there are many ways to encourage reading and learning in your community.

One great way to get students excited about reading is to involve older students as reading tutors. Partner with local colleges and universities to recruit work-study students and other college students as reading tutors. This not only provides valuable support for younger students, but it also helps to promote a culture of reading and learning within the community. Encourage older student groups such as Girl Scouts to volunteer as reading tutors and make a positive impact on the learning of the younger students.

Bedtime Story Night
Calling all young dreamers and storybook enthusiasts! We are excited to invite you to an unforgettable evening filled with captivating tales and cozy bedtime fun.

Here’s what’s in store for you:
- Bedtime stories: Our talented teachers and special guests will bring beloved stories to life, transporting you to magical worlds and igniting your imagination. Interactive performances: Watch as characters from classic fairytales step right off the pages and into our school, captivating young and old alike.
- Craft activities: Unleash your creativity with fun crafts inspired by the stories you hear, allowing your imagination to soar even further.
- Milk and cookies: No bedtime routine is complete without a sweet treat! Enjoy milk and cookies as a delightful bedtime snack.

Shine-A-Light Night
Discover the vast array of extracurricular opportunities available to students and families at our school and in the community at an Extracurricular Showcase event! From sports teams and cheer groups to band, chorus, clubs, robotics, dance, drama, after-school programs, and community partnership services and resources, this event is the perfect way to explore all the ways students can develop their interests and talents beyond the classroom.

Experience firsthand demonstrations of sports teams, cheer groups, band and chorus performances, robotics demonstrations, dance and drama performances, and more. Learn about the various clubs and after-school programs offered and discover the community partnership services and resources available to support student growth.
Mentoring and Tutoring
Reach the potential of students of all ages with a Community Mentoring Program! This program connects parent volunteers and college students with high school and middle school students, who in turn mentor elementary school students. The mentoring program offers a wide range of activities such as learning math and science, visiting museums, participating in community service, recreational activities like a mentor basketball league, and providing tutoring and homework help.

Through this program, students will have the opportunity to gain valuable skills and knowledge from experienced mentors, who can help guide and support them in their academic and personal growth. The program is designed to give all students the resources they need to succeed, and it is a great way for parents, college students and high school students to give back to the community.

Financial Literacy Workshops
Gain practical financial skills and knowledge through interactive workshops focused on budgeting, saving, and financial planning for families. These sessions emphasize parental involvement, ensuring that parents can effectively guide their children in developing healthy financial habits and making informed decisions about money management.

Offer Variety
Incorporate a diverse range of volunteer opportunities to involve parents in different activities. Encourage parent volunteers to showcase their skills and talents by leading engaging and fun activities during lunchtime, weekends, and after-school. These activities could include leading walks, games, and exercise programs such as dance, cheerleading, karate, aerobics, and yoga.

Utilize the expertise of parents in fields such as personal training or gardening to organize health fairs or create school gardens. The possibilities are endless with Project Appleseed's Parent Engagement Pledge and Inventory of Volunteer Interests.

Come to School w/Your Student Day
National PTA’s Take Your Family to School Week, celebrated Feb. 13–17, 2023, is designed to provide families with an opportunity to get more involved in their child’s education and strengthen their partnerships with teachers and administrators. The timing of the week honors the day PTA was founded, Feb. 17, 1897. This event, commonly known as "Bring Your Parent to School Day" or "Take Your Parent to School Day," provides an opportunity for parents and caregivers to gain a deeper understanding of their child's daily school experience and to see firsthand the teaching and learning taking place in the classrooms.
TikTok Gratitude Contest
Dallas ISD is celebrating Nov. 17, National Parent Involvement Day all week long with events hosted by the Family and Community Engagement department. It’s important that our parents feel valued and below are ways students can highlight the powerful contributions that parents and guardians provide at school and at home to support student success.

Monday, Nov. 14: Facebook Live Appreciation – Parents are invited to join us on Facebook Live at 9 a.m. for a special message from Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Stephanie Elizalde and the Trustees as they share their gratitude for parents.

Tuesday, Nov. 15: Crazy Sock Day – Students and staff are allowed to wear crazy socks.

Wednesday, Nov. 16: I’m Thankful for My Parents Because….?

Elementary: Students are asked to bring a picture of their parents/caregivers and write down reasons why they are thankful for their parents.

Secondary: Enter the Family and Community Engagement TikTok contest to show how grateful we are for our parents/caregivers by creating a TikTok. Upload your video using the hashtag #DISDPARENTS. The most creative video will have a chance to win.

Thursday, Nov. 17: Drive-Thru Greetings – At drop-off or pick-up faculty, staff and students are invited to create signs or posters and use streamers or other decorations to celebrate parents. Campuses can gift parents snacks or treats to show their appreciation.

TikTok Challenge Rules:
The TikTok challenge is only open to secondary Dallas ISD students. All submissions must follow guidelines and will be judged on originality and creativity. Use the hashtag #DISDPARENTS to enter.

- TikTok must be focused on thanking parents/guardians.
- TikTok length: 30-to-60-second video.
- Appropriate sound: No profanity or inappropriate language.
- Appropriate skit/dance/appearance: no inappropriate gestures or clothing.

A Comprehensive School Physical Activity Program (CSPAP)
The school leaders can improve the overall school environment by strengthening the connection between school-based physical activity, the social and emotional climate, and social and emotional learning.

School leaders can:

- Recognize the value of physical education and physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.
- Support physical activity integration in the classroom to reinforce what is taught in physical education and give students a chance to practice their new knowledge and skills. Offer daily recess for free play and socialization which are important for building connections with other students.
- Encourage teachers and staff to model active lifestyles and strengthen relationships with students by being physically active during the school day with students.
Promote equitable access to physical activity by communicating to parents, teachers, and staff about free and low-cost activities that can be done at home and resources in the community that don’t require extra equipment or facilities to be physically active.

Family Fitness Night
Join with families to identify health promotion projects in the community that could involve parents. For example, invite family members to participate in physical activities at school or in the community, such as runs or walkathons. Kick off National Parental Involvement Day & Public School Volunteer Week with a special welcome for new students and families in the community. Host discussions about how parents can support healthy behaviors at home. Such discussions might be held at open houses and back-to-school nights, at parent meetings, and during parent-teacher conferences.

Reaching students with the message about the importance of fitness isn’t enough. Go for the gold with events designed to bring in students and their families too. Involve the Physical Education teachers to plan physical activities in the gym like karate, kickboxing, aerobics, dance, yoga, Pilates, hip hop, Zumba, and body sculpting.

Promote Healthy Behaviors
Suggest ways parents can make family outings fun learning experiences and promote healthy behaviors (e.g., picking fruit or hiking). Ask parents to engage their children in health-related learning experiences, such as cooking dinner and packing lunch together, shopping for healthy foods, and reading labels on over-the-counter medicines.

Our partner at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) joined with Project Appleseed to release resources on parent engagement in school for the 18th annual National Parental Involvement Day.

The guides are provided as a free tool in the Parental Involvement Toolbox. Drawing from research and best practices from schools across the country, the CDC collaborated with key partners to create the strategies found in Parents for Healthy Schools to give schools a framework for parent engagement. There are three aspects of the parent engagement framework:

- Connecting with parents thru the Parental Involvement Pledge learning compact.
- Engaging parents in school health activities.
- Sustaining parent engagement in school health.

Science Fair for Families
Engage in hands-on science exploration at our Science Fair for Families. This event promotes curiosity and critical thinking as students and parents collaborate on exciting experiments and projects.

Coding Night for Families
Dive into the world of coding and technology alongside your child at our Coding Night. Discover the basics of programming and computational thinking in a fun and engaging environment.

Robotics Workshop for Parents and Kids
Collaborate on robotics projects and learn about robotics technologies during our hands-on workshop designed for families.
Gardening and Nutrition Classes
Explore healthy living through gardening and nutrition classes that promote wellness and sustainability within our school community.

Career Day for Parents and Students
Explore diverse career paths and professions during our Career Day event. Parents and community members share insights about their careers, inspiring students to envision their future aspirations.

STEM Challenges at Home
Participate in ongoing STEM challenges and activities designed for families to complete together at home, reinforcing STEM skills outside of the classroom.

Cultural Heritage Night
Celebrate diversity and cultural heritage with performances, cuisine, and activities that highlight the rich traditions within our school community.

Study Skills Workshop for Parents and Students
Enhance study habits and academic success strategies through interactive workshops tailored to both parents and students.
Slice 4: Speak Up for Every Child

The school affirms family and student expertise and advocacy so that all students are treated fairly and have access to relationships and opportunities that will support their success.

Goal 1. Navigate the School System: Are families knowledgeable and able to raise questions or concerns about their child’s educational experience?

School & Parent Group Indicators
- Build school staffs’ skills to build trust and problem-solve with students and families.
- Make it easy to understand how the school and district operate.
- Comply with families’ rights under federal and state laws.
- Connect families to resources that address their questions or concerns.
- Make school staff and families aware of conflict resolution processes and apply them fairly.

Goal 2. Address inequitable outcomes and access.
Does the school and PTA/PTO remove barriers for families to be advocates for and with students’—particularly those who are most marginalized?

School & Parent Group Indicators
- Encourage community and leadership among historically under-represented groups.
- Share understandable, disaggregated data on school progress and practices.
- Recognize and work to eliminate bias in family engagement practices and policies.

Jubilee Academies
@jubileeacademic

❤️❤️ We are thrilled to honor you on National Parental Involvement Day.❤️❤️
Parent Liaison serve as a bridge between parents and the school administration, facilitating effective communication and fostering collaboration!

#educationmatters #parentliaisons #jubileeacademies
**Parent Involvement Policy Meeting**

Promote the creation of a parent involvement policy within your school or district. Begin by implementing Project Appleseed’s Parent Engagement Pledge, a Title I learning compact that clearly communicates the school’s commitment to involving families and the community in the education of their children. Establish a parent resource center as a hub for families to access information on relevant topics, connect with one another, and interact with school staff. This center can serve as a valuable resource for promoting and facilitating ongoing parent involvement.

**District Advisory Council**

Join our District Advisory Council and be part of the decision-making process. Together, we can strengthen the family’s voice and create policies that benefit us, children and community. Let’s build strong connections and raise concerns together. #SharedDecisionMaking

**Parent Leadership Symposium**

Engage in leadership development opportunities and discussions on parent-led initiatives to strengthen our school community.

**Civic Engagement Workshop**

Explore civic responsibilities and community engagement strategies to promote active citizenship among parents and students.

**Start A PTA Chapter**

Whether you are a parent, caregiver, school official or community leader, starting a PTA in your community is easy! Each local PTA is a member-led and member-run independent association providing programs, activities and services to support its members and community. All PTAs are established to achieve PTA’s mission. All PTAs must comply with local, state and federal laws and regulations.

**Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Meetings**

PTA Meetings offer parents a platform to collaborate with teachers and school administrators on various initiatives. Parents can advocate for resources, programs, and policies that support student success, well-being, and educational opportunities within the school.

**Student Showcase Night**

Celebrate student achievements and talents during a showcase event that highlights the diverse skills and interests of our student body.
Today is National Parent Involvement Day! We encourage our families to stay engaged in their children's educational journey.

- Attend parent-teacher conferences
- Ask kids about what they’re learning in school
- Monitor homework and assignments

Thank you for your partnership!

Student-Led Conferences
Empower students to take ownership of their learning by leading conferences with their parents to discuss progress and goals.

Education Policy Forum
Participate in discussions and forums focused on education policy and advocacy to influence positive changes in our educational system.

Parent Advocacy Training
Learn effective advocacy skills to support educational initiatives and policies that benefit all students within our school district. This training program equips parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to engage in meaningful dialogue with educators, administrators, and policymakers. Participants will learn how to effectively communicate their perspectives, understand the intricacies of educational policy, and mobilize support for important issues affecting the school community. Through workshops and hands-on activities, parents will develop strategies for advocating for equitable resources, inclusive practices, and enhanced educational opportunities. By fostering a collaborative relationship between families and schools, this training aims to create a unified voice that champions the needs and aspirations of all students.

School Board Meetings
School Board Meetings are critical forums where parents can voice concerns, provide input on policies, and advocate for changes that benefit students. Parents can participate in discussions about budget allocations, curriculum decisions, and school policies to ensure alignment with student needs. Connect directly with school board members to share perspectives and contribute to decision-making processes that impact our school.

School Improvement Plan Review
Participating in School Improvement Plan Reviews allows parents to contribute to the strategic planning process. By providing feedback on academic goals, student achievement targets, and school priorities, parents can influence initiatives that enhance educational outcomes for all students.

Curriculum Development Committees
Parents involved in Curriculum Development Committees play a crucial role in shaping educational programs and learning standards. They provide insights on curriculum design, instructional materials, and academic pathways to ensure alignment with student needs and community expectations.

April 22-26 is Public School Volunteer Week. To celebrate, we would like to congratulate our Volunteers of the Year! These individuals were recognized during last week’s School Board meeting for their impactful contributions. Read about each volunteer at wjccschools.org/about-wjcc/ach...
Special Education Advisory Board

The Special Education Advisory Board empowers parents to advocate for students with special needs. By participating, parents can collaborate with educators, specialists, and administrators to ensure that individualized education plans (IEPs) and support services effectively meet the diverse needs of students with disabilities. The board provides a platform for parents to share their insights and experiences, contributing to the development of inclusive policies and practices. This collaboration aims to enhance educational outcomes, promote equal opportunities, and ensure that all students receive the necessary resources and support. Through active involvement, parents can help create a more inclusive and supportive educational environment for every student.

Bullying Prevention Task Force

Joining the Bullying Prevention Task Force enables parents to contribute to creating a safe and inclusive school environment. By participating, parents can advocate for robust anti-bullying policies, awareness campaigns, and effective intervention strategies. The task force focuses on promoting positive behavior and supporting students' emotional well-being through educational programs, workshops, and community events. Parents work collaboratively with educators, counselors, and administrators to identify bullying issues and implement preventive measures. This involvement ensures that every student feels valued, respected, and safe at school, fostering an environment conducive to learning and personal growth. Your participation can make a significant difference in building a supportive and bully-free school community.

Educational Equity Task Force

We encourage parents to join our Educational Equity Task Force and actively advocate for fairness and inclusivity in education! As a member of this task force, you'll have the opportunity to work towards eliminating disparities in academic opportunities, resources, and outcomes to ensure equitable access and success for all students.

Parents on the Educational Equity Task Force play a crucial role in promoting policies and practices that prioritize educational equity. By participating in this initiative, you can contribute to shaping a more just and supportive educational environment for our students. Your involvement will make a significant impact on addressing systemic challenges and fostering positive change within our school community. Join us in advancing educational equity and creating opportunities for every student to thrive! #ParentInvolvement #EducationalEquity #Inclusivity

Parent Focus Groups

Parent Focus Groups gather diverse perspectives on school-related topics, allowing parents to express concerns, share ideas, and propose solutions. These groups facilitate open dialogue between parents and school staff, fostering collaboration and problem-solving to address student needs effectively.
Slice 5: Share Power

The school partners with families in decisions that affect children and families and together—and as a team, inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

Goal 1. Strengthen the Family’s Voice in Shared Decision Making: Are family’s partners in making decisions that affect their children at school and in the community?

School & Parent Group Indicators
- Transparently and accessibly communicate about decision-making processes | Build shared knowledge about decisions that affect children.
- Give families and students voice in decisions that affect children.
- Identify and remedy power imbalances.
- Track data and fill gaps for representative input and power in decisions.

Goal 2. Build Families’ Connections: Do families have a strong, broad-based organization that offers regular opportunities to develop relationships and raise concerns with school leaders, public officials, and business and community leaders?

School & Parent Group Indicators
- Connect families to local officials.
- Foster student and family leadership and civic engagement
- Support the development of an effective family/parent organization that represents all families.
PTO Informational Meeting

We are thrilled to invite you to our upcoming PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) Informational Meeting, coinciding with the celebrated National Parental Involvement Day. Join us on the third Thursday in November to learn more about the exciting initiatives and opportunities available to actively engage in your child's education.

During this informative session, we will discuss the crucial role of parental involvement in fostering a supportive learning environment. You will gain insights into how you can contribute to school activities, volunteer for events, and participate in decision-making processes that directly impact your child's education.

Moreover, we will highlight the various committees within our PTO, providing a chance for you to connect with like-minded parents who share your passion for creating a thriving school community. Your involvement is invaluable! Join us to learn, connect, and make a difference in your child's educational journey.

Secure your spot. Together, let's celebrate National Parental Involvement Day and strengthen our partnership for the benefit of our children.

Inventory Volunteer Interests

Promote parent involvement by utilizing Project Appleseed's tools. Assess the unique skills and interests of your parent volunteers using the Inventory of Volunteer Interests. Encourage them to lead engaging activities during lunchtime, weekends, and after-school. From leading walks and games, to teaching dance, cheerleading, karate, aerobics, yoga and more, the possibilities are endless. Utilize the expertise of parents in fields such as personal training or gardening to organize health fairs or start school gardens. Make a positive impact on students' lives by utilizing Project Appleseed's Parent Engagement Pledge and Inventory of Volunteer Interests.

Title I Meeting

Attention all parents and guardians! Join us for our Annual Title I Family Engagement Meeting, where your voice matters! Let's shape the future together and create a parent involvement policy that supports our students' success. At this meeting, we'll discuss important topics such as building a strong community, effective communication strategies, supporting student achievement, amplifying your voice, sharing power, and collaborating with the wider community. Your active participation is crucial in shaping our school's family engagement initiatives. Together, we can create an inclusive and vibrant learning environment for our children. Mark your calendars, spread the word, and make sure to attend this valuable event! We can't wait to hear your ideas and insights!
**Walk and Roll to School**

Strap on your helmet and lace up your shoes. National Bike & Roll to School Day is May 3, 2023, and registration is now open. Bike & Roll to School Day invites participants to celebrate the joy of active commuting while building a sense of community and school spirit. Whether addressing the need to make routes to school safer for active trips or encouraging children and teens to be more active, these events can be powerful tools to inspire lasting change. Of course, they are also fun! While May 3 is this year’s official date, communities are welcome to celebrate any day in May that best fits their schedules. Register today to join the movement!

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with other parents, educators, and community members who share your passion for education. Together, we can shape the future of our school district!

Be heard, be involved, and be a part of something great. We look forward to seeing you at the School District Town Hall Meeting on National Parental Involvement Day! Please spread the word and bring a friend. Together, let's make a positive impact in our children's lives!

**Equity and Inclusion Task Force**

Join our Equity and Inclusion Task Force to collaborate on proactive initiatives that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion within our school community. Together, we work towards fostering a welcoming environment where every student feels valued, respected, and supported in their educational journey. Through strategic planning, advocacy, and awareness-building efforts, our task force aims to address disparities, celebrate diversity, and promote inclusivity across all aspects of school life. Join us in championing social justice and creating a more equitable and supportive educational experience for all students.

**Town Hall Meeting**

Calling all parents and guardians! Mark your calendars for an empowering event that you won't want to miss! Join us for a special School District Town Hall Meeting on National Parental Involvement Day! This is your chance to actively engage and make a difference in your child's education! We value your input and want to hear your ideas, concerns, and suggestions about our school district.

Share your thoughts on curriculum, extracurricular activities, parental involvement programs, and more. Let's work together to create a supportive learning environment for our children!
Parent University Sessions
Join our Parent University Sessions and become actively involved in enhancing your parenting skills and supporting your child’s academic development! These educational sessions and workshops are designed to provide valuable resources and insights that empower parents to play a proactive role in their children’s education.

As a participant, you'll have access to a series of engaging sessions covering topics such as effective communication with teachers, fostering a positive learning environment at home, understanding academic standards, and supporting social-emotional development.

Your involvement in Parent University will not only strengthen your parenting abilities but also contribute to improved academic outcomes for your child. Let's work together to ensure every child receives the support and encouragement they need to succeed academically and beyond!

School Governance Committee
Collaborate with administrators and community members to make decisions on school policies, budgets, and strategic planning, ensuring representation and accountability. Join a committee dedicated to shared decision-making and promoting transparency in school governance.

Budget Planning and Review Committee
Join our Budget Planning and Review Committee to play a vital role in shaping our school's financial future! By participating in this committee, you'll have the opportunity to help develop and review the school budget, ensuring equitable resource allocation to support academic programs and essential student services. Your involvement will directly contribute to the success of our students and the overall improvement of our school community. Together, let's make a positive impact on education and student outcomes!

Curriculum Advisory Council
We invite parents to join our Curriculum Advisory Council and play a crucial role in enhancing our school's educational offerings! As a member of this council, you'll have the opportunity to review curriculum materials and academic programs, providing valuable feedback to ensure alignment with educational standards and the diverse needs of our students. Your involvement will directly contribute to shaping the educational experience for all students, ensuring that our curriculum is engaging, effective, and inclusive. Join us in making a difference in the academic success of our students!

Assessment and Testing Review Panel
We encourage parents to engage with our Assessment and Testing Review Panel to contribute to the improvement of our assessment practices and testing policies! As a member of this panel, you'll have the opportunity to review assessment practices, analyze data, and evaluate testing policies to ensure fairness, validity, and alignment with our instructional goals and student needs.

Your participation will play a vital role in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of our assessment methods, ultimately supporting student growth and achievement. Join us in shaping the future of educational assessment at our school and promoting excellence in student learning!
Health and Wellness Committee
We invite parents to actively engage with our Health and Wellness Committee and contribute to the promotion of comprehensive health education and wellness initiatives within our school community! As a member of this committee, you'll have the opportunity to advocate for important topics such as physical activity, nutrition, mental health awareness, and overall well-being among our students. Your involvement will help shape policies and programs that prioritize student health and wellness, fostering a supportive and healthy environment for all. Join us in advocating for initiatives that empower our students to lead healthy and balanced lives! Together, we can make a positive impact on the well-being of our school community.

Library, Technology, or Media Center Advisory Board
Promote literacy and information literacy by advising on library resources, programs, and services to support student learning and enrichment. Provide guidance on technology integration and digital learning initiatives, ensuring equitable access and effective use of educational technology for all students. The board's role includes recommending strategies for enhancing library collections, improving access to digital resources, and fostering a culture of reading and critical thinking. By collaborating with educators, students, and the community, the advisory board aims to create an inclusive environment that supports lifelong learning and prepares students for the challenges of the digital age.
Community Outreach and Engagement Committee

Strengthen partnerships between the school and local community through events, outreach programs, and collaborative projects that benefit students and families.

School Safety Task Force

Contribute to initiatives and policies aimed at enhancing school safety and crisis preparedness through comprehensive risk assessment and prevention strategies. The task force works collaboratively with school administrators, law enforcement, and community members to identify potential safety threats and develop proactive measures to address them. Responsibilities include evaluating current safety protocols, recommending improvements, and implementing training programs for staff and students. By promoting a culture of awareness and preparedness, the task force strives to create a secure learning environment where students and educators can focus on education without concerns for their safety.

Environmental Sustainability Team

Lead efforts to promote environmental awareness and sustainability practices within the school community, implementing green initiatives and education programs.

Arts and Enrichment Committee

Support arts education and cultural enrichment by planning and implementing programs, performances, and workshops that foster creativity and appreciation for the arts.
Slice 6: Collaborate with Community

The school collaborates with community organizations and members to connect students, families and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services and civic participation.

**Goal 1. Build a Strong Foundation for Community Partnerships:** Does the school and PTA/PTO have a plan for when and how to engage community partners?

**School & Parent Group Indicators:**
- Map community needs and assets.
- Align partnerships to school improvement planning.
- Work with partners to clarify roles and responsibilities.

**Goal 2. Connect the School with Community Partners:** Do family and school leaders work closely with community organizations, businesses, and institutions of higher education?

**School & Parent Group Indicators:**
- Understand issues affecting the community and contribute to community-wide solutions.
- Address student and family basic needs through community resources.
- Build staffs’ cultural competence through community partnerships.
- Act as a hub of community life.

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Foster strong parent-school partnerships by providing opportunities for teachers, parents, and students to communicate and collaborate. Use the Parental Involvement Checklist here: bit.ly/2HAu8RK #PublicSchoolVolunteerWeek

**Strengthening Collaboration**

Learn how to collaborate with your community with the PTA Virtual Town Hall on the updated National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. Tune in to discover how using the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships can enhance your efforts to help children and communities thrive. Hear about the latest updates to the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.
Action Planning
Hilliard Elementary School Community is thrilled to share some fantastic updates from @Hilliard_ES! Our recent School Climate Survey results are in, and we are grateful for the invaluable feedback received from parents. With your input, we have developed an action plan to further enhance our school climate and ensure an optimal learning environment for our students.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to @MoultryEdrick and our dedicated campus staff for their excellent effort and unwavering commitment in implementing the action plan. Together, we are making a positive impact on our school community. As we celebrate National Parental Involvement Day, we want to express our gratitude for your continued support and engagement. Your involvement is instrumental in shaping the educational experience of our students. We encourage you to join us in upcoming events and initiatives to foster a strong partnership between home and school. Stay tuned for more updates and exciting opportunities to make a difference at @Hilliard_ES!

Issue A Proclamation!
Make your National Parental Involvement Day and Public School Volunteer Week events stand out with official recognition. Reach out to your school board, mayor, city council, state representative, or governor to request a proclamation celebrating Project Appleseed’s National Parental Involvement Day (Third Thursday in November) and Public School Volunteer Week (Third Week of April). This official recognition will not only highlight the importance of parental involvement in your schools but also bring attention to your event and make it more meaningful for your community.

Organize a rally or a parade!
Unite your community and showcase the importance of family engagement by organizing a rally or parade. Bring together families, educators, and community leaders to celebrate the impact of parental involvement on student success. A steering committee of various community and school leaders, such as the school superintendent, mayor, school board members, city council members, local business leaders, and representatives from organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, YMCA/YWCA, United Way, Boys and Girls Club, Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, and Urban League can help plan and execute a successful event.

With their input and support, the rally or parade can reflect the needs and interests of the community, and create a fun and interactive way to involve families and promote the importance of family engagement. By bringing together families, educators, and community leaders, a rally or parade can create a sense of unity and collaboration towards the success of students.
Awards
Promote parental involvement by recognizing and honoring those who have made significant contributions to education in your community. Host a special ceremony to present awards to parents, community leaders, and local government officials who have demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting students and families. Consider categories such as "Outstanding Parent Involvement," "Community Partner of the Year," and "Government Official of the Year." By highlighting the positive impact of these individuals, you can inspire others to get involved and make a difference in the lives of students. Don't forget to share the event and the awardees on social media to show appreciation and recognize their contributions.

Pre-K Beautification Day
A pre-K beautification event is a fun and engaging activity that involves parents and their pre-kindergarten children in sprucing up their school environment. During the event, parents and students work together to plant flowers, paint murals, and clean up the school grounds. This collaborative effort fosters a sense of community and ownership, as parents and students take pride in their school and work to make it a beautiful and inviting place. The event can also serve as an opportunity for parents to meet and socialize with each other, and for children to learn about the importance of caring for their environment.

Environmental Sustainability Projects
Participate in community projects focused on environmental conservation and sustainability efforts. Engage in various initiatives aimed at promoting a greener, healthier environment, such as tree planting, recycling drives, and educational workshops on sustainable practices. One key initiative is the Community Clean-Up Day, where volunteers come together to contribute to neighborhood beautification and environmental stewardship. During this event, participants help remove litter, plant gardens, and restore local parks, fostering a sense of community pride and responsibility. By joining these projects, individuals can make a tangible impact on their surroundings, learn about environmental issues, and encourage sustainable living practices. Together, these efforts aim to create a cleaner, more sustainable community for current and future generations.
Community Storytelling Event
Share stories and cultural traditions through community storytelling events that promote unity and understanding.

In involve Parents in School Health
Promote a healthy school environment by involving parents in school health activities. Utilize resources such as CDC's Parent Engagement: Strategies for Involving Parents in School Health and Promoting Parent Engagement in School Health: A Facilitator's Guide for Staff Development to develop a plan for engaging parents. These resources provide evidence-based strategies for connecting, engaging, and sustaining parent involvement in school health initiatives, through the Parents for Healthy Schools program.

Theme-based Student Essays
Encourage students to express their appreciation for their parent(s) or caregiver(s) by participating in a writing contest. The theme can be on how their parent(s) or caregiver(s) have supported them in their academic and personal growth. Students can submit essays, poems, or thank you letters. These can be shared with families during the event through displays, performances, or readings.

Partnership with Libraries for Family Reading
Collaborate with local libraries to promote literacy and engage families in reading programs and activities.

Cultural Festivals and Performances
Celebrate diverse cultures and traditions through festivals and performances that showcase the talents and heritage of our community.
**Professional Development: Family Engagement Training**  
Date Desired: _________________

- **☐ On-Site In-Person Workshop (Multiple Schools) - $4,500.00***
- **☐ On-Site In-Person Workshop (Single School) - $3,500.00***
- **☐ Virtual Workshop (One or More Schools) - $3,000.00**
- **☐ Family Engagement Toolbox Training via Zoom - $1,250.00 Date Desired: ________________**

*Includes all travel expenses and includes a Lifetime Family Engagement Toolbox for single schools, four for multiple schools!

**Family Engagement Toolbox Annual Choices**

- **☐ Lifetime Toolbox! $1,000.00 Lifetime Copyrights for an individual school.**
- **☐ One Year $400.00 - Copyrights for one year at an individual school. **
- **☐ Two Years $500.00 - Copyrights for two years at an individual school. **
- **☐ Three Yrs. $600.00 - Copyrights for three years at an individual school**
- **☐ Four Yrs. $700.00 - Copyrights for three years at an individual school. **

**Membership (Two-Years)**

- **☐ Individual School $150.00**
- **☐ District $300.00**
- **☐ State/Regional Membership $1,000**

**Order Information**

First Name: ____________________________________  Middle: ________  Last Name: __________________________________________________

Street Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________________________  State: ________  Zip Code: _________________________

Required* School: __________________________________________________  District: ______________________________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________  Fax: _________________________________________________

Required* E-mail address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Title: _____________________________  Signature: _____________________________________________________  Date: ____________________

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** Master files are in Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf files). Toolboxes are delivered by e-mail. * Allow 10 business days for delivery. 25% off for all re-orders with Membership Renewal only.