

# **Promoting Excellence for All through Family Engagement**

**Title I-D**

**Subpart 1 and Subpart 2 Conference**

Neglected and Delinquent State-Operated Juvenile  
and Adult Corrections Institutions

November 13, 2015

Fond du Lac

# Today's Presenters

Ruth Anne Landsverk

Title I Family Engagement Coordinator, DPI

[ruthanne.landsverk@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:ruthanne.landsverk@dpi.wi.gov); 608-266-9757

Chrishirella Warthen, PhD

Title I Education Consultant, DPI

[chrishirella.warthen@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:chrishirella.warthen@dpi.wi.gov); 608-266-3625

# Today's Objectives

- Review Title I, Part D, parent involvement requirements
- Overview of framework and new research on re-thinking family engagement
- Family engagement activity and discussion
- Family engagement resources

# Purposes of Family Engagement

- **Improve educational services**
- Provide successful **transition**
- Provide **support system to prevent dropouts** and continue education
- (PHOTO) - Alison

# Parental Involvement Requirements

- **get assistance** in improving child's educational achievement
- **prevent further involvement** in delinquent activities
- **offer parents the opportunity to participate** in child/youth's educational plans

# Re-Thinking Family Engagement

- Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships
- Family Engagement in Promoting Excellence for All Report
- *Don't Forget the Families: The missing piece in America's effort to help all children succeed*

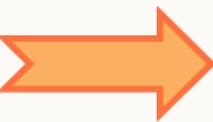
# Reframing Family Engagement ...

From an individual parent's or teacher's "job"  To a shared responsibility

From random acts  To systemic approaches from cradle to career

From events  To results-driven

From add-on services  To purposeful connections to learning

From compliance  To focus on learning, improvement, accountability and innovation

From limited data  To transparent data systems

**Figure 2: The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships**



<http://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/partners-education.pdf>

# Linking Family Engagement to Learning: Karen Mapp

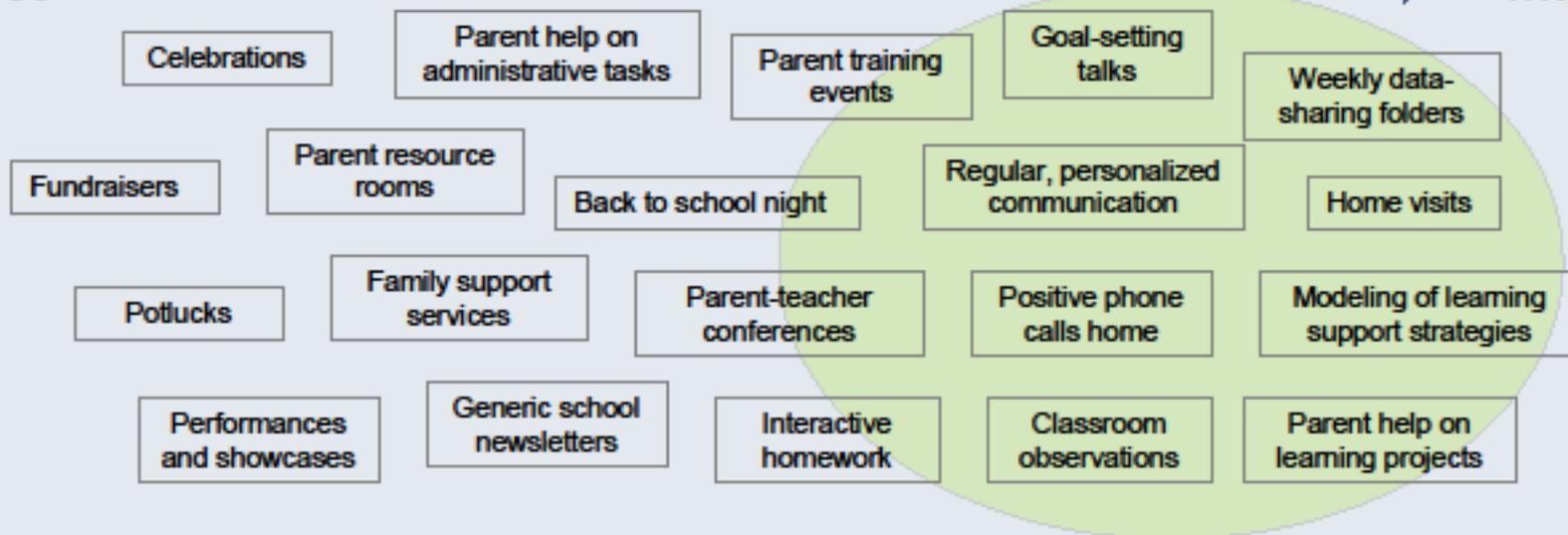


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDPY1t8E6Cg>

# Our Perspective on Relative Impact of Family Engagement Strategies on Student Learning

Lower  
impact

Higher  
impact



*Flamboyant Foundation defines family engagement as collaboration between families and educators that accelerates student learning.*

# Family and Community Engagement in Promoting Excellence For All

Report of the 2014-15 State Superintendent's  
Parent Advisory Council

“We believe all parents want their children to learn and to succeed in school. Families are a source of strength and knowledge. Families are best able to help their children do well in school when schools accept families as they are and make frequent efforts to know, listen to, and learn from parents.”



# **Strategies To Promote Excellence For All**

## **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

- **Consider Families and Communities as Experts on their Children**
- **Family Engagement**
- **Welcoming Environment**
- **Community Schools**
- **Community Partnerships**
- **Focused Events**
- **Communication with Families**

# What's the Experience of a Parent of an Incarcerated Child?



# Parent-Child Challenges to Living Apart

1. difficult to share thoughts or feelings when they occur
2. fewer opportunities to develop and maintain shared rituals and meanings
3. few spaces for private, uninterrupted conversation
4. difficult to stay aware of the child's activities or state while being apart.

Supporting Long-Distance Parent-Child Interaction in Divorced Families

<http://home.cc.gatech.edu/lana/uploads/yarosh%20-%20research%20competition%20-%20chi%202008.pdf>

# Leveraging Technology for Family Engagement

- Wisconsin facility audiotapes parent reading a book and send the tape and book home.
- “Message from Me” in Pittsburgh allows preschool children to send photos, audio messages, or emails to their families, communicating about their day via technology kiosks placed in early childhood classrooms.
- Parents of high school students in a credit-recovery summer school program who received short, individualized messages from the teacher every week were more likely to receive credit towards graduation.

The Underutilized Potential of Teacher-to-Parent Communication:  
[http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/mkraft/files/kraft\\_rogers\\_teacher-parent\\_communication\\_hks\\_working\\_paper.pdf](http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/mkraft/files/kraft_rogers_teacher-parent_communication_hks_working_paper.pdf)

# GradNation Report

Two findings about how family engagement contributed to high school graduation:

1. Parent **support of student academic progress**, and
2. Strong **parent-adolescent connections** that feature emotional support, open communication, and encouragement of positive behavior.

The Building Blocks of a GradNation:

[http://www.americaspromise.org/sites/default/files/FactorsPromoteGraduation\\_ResearchBrief\\_final\\_0.pdf](http://www.americaspromise.org/sites/default/files/FactorsPromoteGraduation_ResearchBrief_final_0.pdf)

# *Don't Forget the Families Study*

- **Listen first to families** v. sending messages
- **Build relationships** v. provide programs
- **Highlight families' strengths** v. adopt approaches based on negative stereotypes
- **Encourage families to experiment with new practices** v. give advice
- **Emphasize parenting as a relationship** v. techniques
- **Broaden coalitions** for young people's success to actively engage families

# Family Engagement Activity

1. Read “Tools for Facilities: Tips for Engaging Families” handout
2. Choose one Focus Area and jot reflections on Self-Assessment chart
3. Find your Focus Area table
  - Share your thoughts
  - Agree on 3 to 5 effective practices
  - Write them down on the large paper

# Family Engagement Activity cont'd

4. Rotate to the other four Focus Area tables.  
Add to what's there:
  - What could make these practices better?
  - What else could you do?
  - What resonates with you?
5. When time's up, choose one person to share out highlights from the Focus Area.

# Family Engagement Resources

- Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships: <http://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/partners-education.pdf>
- Report of the 2014-15 State Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council [dpi.wi.gov/pacreport](http://dpi.wi.gov/pacreport)
- *Don't Forget the Families* Report: <http://www.search-institute.org/downloadable/SearchInstitute-DontForgetFamilies-Report-10-13-2015.pdf>

# Additional Family Engagement Resources

- **Toolkit for Engaging Families in Their Child's Education at a Juvenile Justice Facility, NDTAC**  
[http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/sites/default/files/docs/NDTAC\\_FacilityToolkit\\_EngagingFamilies.pdf](http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/sites/default/files/docs/NDTAC_FacilityToolkit_EngagingFamilies.pdf)
- **National Network of Partnership Schools**  
[www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org)
- **Harvard Family Research Project:** <http://www.hfrp.org/>
- **Family Engagement Inventory, US Dept of Health and Human Services** <https://www.childwelfare.gov/fei/resources/>