



Positive and Effective Family Engagement

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Positive and effective family engagement in schools can make or break a school's effectiveness and culture. What exactly is family engagement? What are the best ways to communicate with students' families and get them into the school? Once in school, what are the best activities and ways to connect stakeholders to resources? How do you address any barriers to family engagement? This course will answer these questions and more! Topics to be included: Family Engagement Definition, Family Engagement Models, Building Strong Relationships with Families, Fostering Two-Way Communication, Family Engagement Barriers, and Other Important Topics in Family Engagement.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in family engagement strategies and practices.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe family engagement, its positive impacts, and one model of family engagement.
2. Describe three models of family engagement.
3. Identify and describe ways to build strong relationships to improve family engagement.
4. Identify what two-way communication is, its impact, and strategies to encourage it.
5. Identify barriers to family engagement and approaches to overcome them.
6. Identify ways to engage families of special education students in volunteering and through partnerships with community organizations.

Modules

- Module 1: Family Engagement Basics, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Family Engagement Models, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Building Strong Relationships with Families, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Fostering Two-Way Communication, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Barriers to Family Engagement, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Additional Key Topics Related to Family Engagement, Quiz 6

Grading

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

Format

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey



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through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.