

DEFINING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

This activity explores four definitions of family engagement that will spark ideas and deepen your understanding as you develop your own.

Work individually or with a team to create a shared definition of family engagement that reflects your goals and vision for engaging all families. Remember, this definition will evolve as your work grows and needs change.



Step 1: Explore these definitions of family engagement. Note how each addresses the what, who, how, and why of family engagement.

Dr. Karen Mapp

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



Family engagement is not an initiative nor is it a race. Family engagement is a commitment to change school culture and, as such, is ongoing and never ending.

Dr. Steven Constantino

National PTA

A shared effort of families, schools and community leaders to advance programs, practices and policies that empower families to make their child's potential a reality.



The shared responsibility of parents, teachers, and the community to help students succeed in school and beyond.

Dr. Joyce Epstein

CREATE YOUR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT DEFINITION

Step 2: Begin building your working definition of family engagement. Consider the what, who, how, and why, along with your unique needs and opportunities.



What?

Who?

How?

Why?

Step 3: Use your what, who, how, and why ideas to create your family engagement definition below. Remember, this is a working definition that can evolve as needs and opportunities change.



Your Family Engagement Definition: