

Tool 5: Review Existing Family Engagement Activities

Purpose: Reflect on existing family engagement activities and how well they (1) contribute to building trusting relationships and (2) connect family engagement to student learning

Instructions

Make a list of current family engagement activities in the left-hand column of the tool. You can prepare this list ahead of time or you can ask the family engagement team to put the list together as a group activity.

Ask the team to reflect on each activity and determine the extent to which it (1) contributes to building trusting relationships and (2) connects to student learning, then document their response by writing "Not well," "Somewhat," or "Very well" in the appropriate column. Initial work can be done by team members as individuals or in pairs and then discussed as a group, or it can be done as a whole-group activity.

Once the team agrees on the rating for each activity, have members discuss how that activity could be improved. However, before the team makes any plans to change existing activities, be sure to review the continuous improvement process in the toolkit; the discussion about existing activities will contribute to the Plan phase.

Activity	Contributes to building trusting relationships	Connects to student learning	Improvement Suggestions
Family Math Nights	Somewhat	Very well	Revise agenda & design activity to facilitate dialogue between educators & families.
Parent University	Somewhat	Somewhat	Invite teachers and families to engage in dialogue about their lives, their work, and their hopes and dreams for students. Revise curriculum at parent university to better align with district learning goals.
Coffee with Principal	Very well	Somewhat	Select a district learning goal for discussion during each coffee session.