

## **Activity 3.2: Envisioning Family Engagement**

Time: 15 - 40 minutes

### **Purpose**

To reflect upon school mission and vision statements to determine how families are included within these statements, and analyze how families might be more successfully connected to school goals and visions

### **Materials Needed**

- Copies of the school or LEAs mission statement, vision statement, and school goals
- Response sheets (Participants may also complete the brainstorming portion of this activity on poster paper or a digital brainstorming platform, such as Padlet.)

### **Roles**

1. Facilitator: Explain activity and lead follow-up discussion. Provide participants with response sheets.
2. Participants: Work in small groups to discuss and answer the questions on the response sheet. Then brainstorm ways that

### **Activity**

1. Facilitator will review the Envisioning Family Engagement worksheet, as well as the Brainstorming for Collaborative Partnerships worksheet.
2. Facilitator will instruct participants to complete the Envisioning Family Engagement response sheet. (10 min).
3. Facilitator will lead a brief discussion to debrief the Envisioning Family Engagement response sheet (10 min).
4. Facilitator will instruct participants to complete brainstorm activity on previously identified platform (paper, poster paper, digital brainstorming site). (15 min)
5. Facilitator will lead a brief discussion to debrief brainstorming session. (10 min)

## Response Sheet: Envisioning Family Engagement

Directions: Mission and vision statements are the bedrocks on which LEAs build educational programming. These statements impact the goals that LEAs and schools set for themselves and also influence their expectations for family involvement in academics. Complete the following worksheet to analyze your LEAs missions, visions, and school goals to determine how families are included in educational planning. Then create the brainstorming sheet to identify ways in which family engagement activities can connect to school goals.

### *Mission and Vision Statement:*

Identify key words within your mission and vision statements which refer to collaborative partnerships. Examples of keywords may be “families,” “cooperation,” etc.

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Identify key words within your mission and vision statements which refer to academics and education.

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If you were to rewrite your school mission or vision statement, what **else** would you include?

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### *School Goals:*

Briefly describe the goal areas identified in your school goals. (Examples: literacy, math, attendance...)

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Do you think your families would identify these goals as being the most important? Why or why not?

## Module 3: Supporting Student Success

### Activity 3.2

## Brainstorm

Consider your previously identified school goals OR the goals that you think your families would have for their children. What activities can you think of that would **directly** relate to your school goals? Here are some examples:

School Goal: Increase performance on the elementary math PSSAs from 50% Proficient to 80% Proficient.

Sample Activities to Engage Families:

- Use interactive homework assignments to engage families in math learning at home
- Create short Explain Everything or YouTube videos to demonstrate math strategies to families
- Establish a math curriculum committee with family participation to identify the most difficult math concepts
- Ask families to contribute a math problem that is important in their everyday lives. For example, a contractor could describe how he uses dimensions to find area or a cook could explain the importance of ratios when adjusting recipes.