



**Series Workshop #2:
*The Power of Family, School
and Community Partners to
Accelerate Learning***

December 15, 2021



Who is the Education Trust?



- The Education Trust is a national nonprofit that works to close opportunity gaps that disproportionately affect students of color and students from low-income families.
- Through our research and advocacy, Ed Trust supports efforts that expand excellence and equity in education from preschool through college, increase college access and completion particularly for historically underserved students, engage diverse communities dedicated to education equity, and increase political and public will to act on equity issues.

Introductions



The Education Trust
edtrust.org



Kayla Patrick
Senior Analyst P-12 Policy



Allison Rose Socol
Acting Director P-12 Policy



Marissa Alberty
Senior Associate
National & State Partnerships

Heritage Traditions

Feast Party Holiday Observance Music Life Enjoy Games Fun Joy Create

Stories Moments Rituals Affirm Light Food Family History Celebration Friends Love

Goals

Workshop Series

- **Increase your understanding** of strategies to address unfinished learning and meet students' social and emotional needs in their districts and communities
- **Build your knowledge** of the federal funding available to support these strategies and the opportunities to influence how those dollars are spent
- **Build your skill and capacity** to leverage your power to fully partner together to support the social, emotional and academic well-being of all students
- **Establish and/or strengthen relationships** with a diverse set of stakeholders around the country.

Session #2

- Learn about the **current best practices** in family and community engagement as they relate to covid-recovery.
- Build awareness of **policies that mandate and support family and community engagement** as a lever for tackling unfinished learning.
- **Grow your toolkit** of practices and policies that support effective family, school and community partnership.



Agenda



Welcome - 10 min



Topic Deep Dive - 10 min



Community & Advocate Panel - 30 min



Breakout Discussion - 20 min




Survey & Close Out - 10 min





Digging In

Family, Community, and School Partnerships to Address Unfinished Learning



"When schools shut down in March 2020 due to the pandemic, we finally broke the imagined boundary that existed between home and school. Parents suddenly had a front row seat to their children's learning, gaining new visibility into their education. Family engagement, the concept of schools partnering with families to help them support their children's learning and development, is not new, but the pandemic brought its importance front and center."

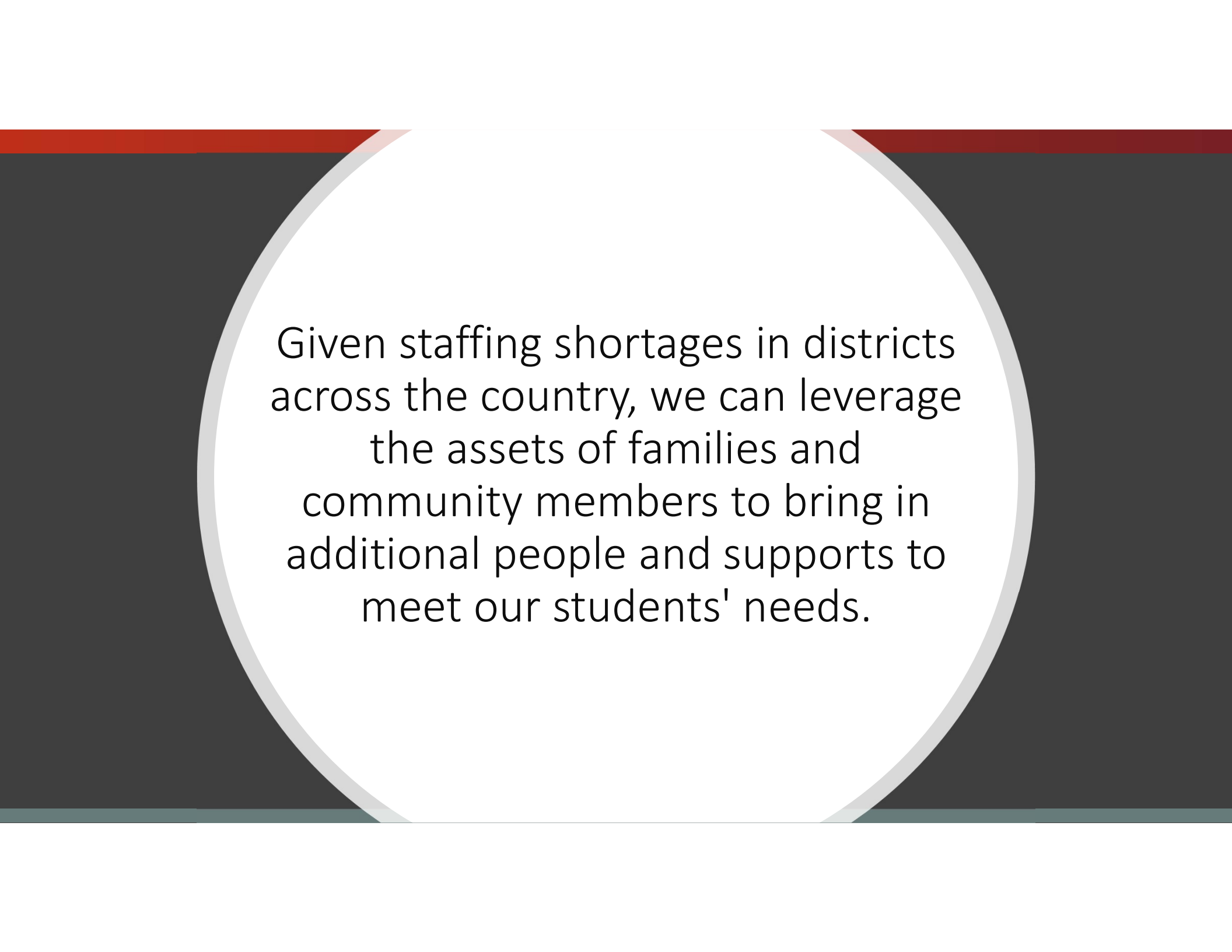
- Karen L. Mapp & Eyal Bergman in *Embracing a New Normal: Toward a More Liberatory Approach to Family Engagement*



Why Does Family and Community Engagement Matter?

- Partnerships between schools, families, and communities can significantly **improve how systems serve their students**, especially those who have been traditionally underserved
- Schools with strong family and community engagement are more likely to **improve students' academic outcomes**, have better **parent-teacher relationships**, and create a **more positive school environment** for students and families.
- Family and community engagement is a **key to addressing students' unfinished learning**.

Sources: <https://www.brookings.edu/essay/collaborating-to-transform-and-improve-education-systems-a-playbook-for-family-school-engagement/>, <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/impact-family-engagement>; https://media.carnegie.org/filer_public/f6/04/f604e672-1d4b-4dc3-903d-3b619a00cd01/fe_report_fin.pdf



Given staffing shortages in districts across the country, we can leverage the assets of families and community members to bring in additional people and supports to meet our students' needs.

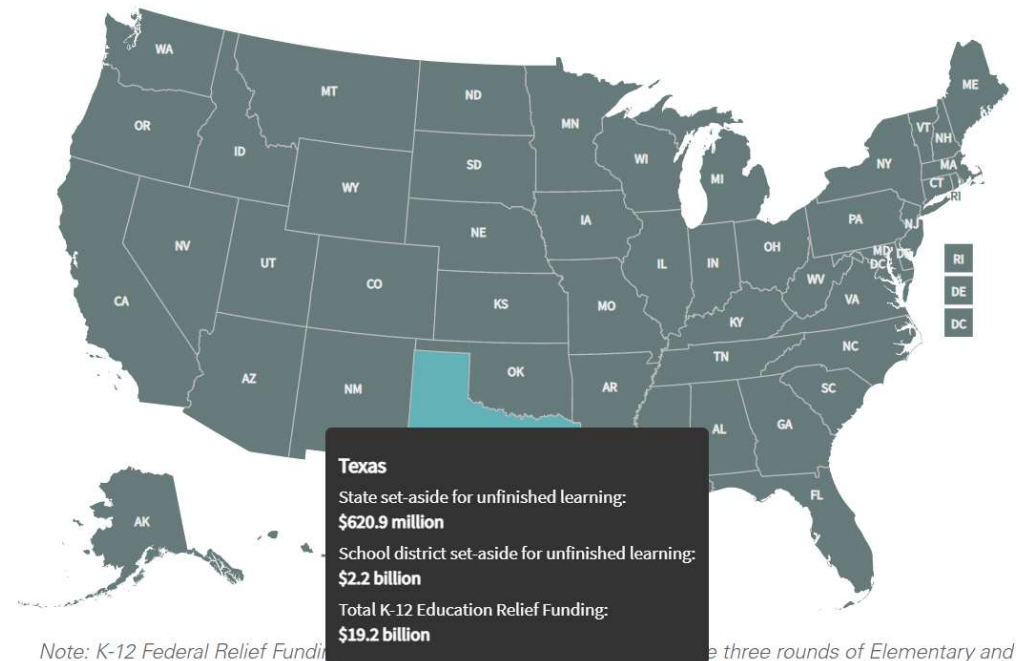
What opportunities does the American Rescue Plan offer states, districts, and schools to expand and improve their family and community engagement strategies?

The U.S. Department of Education has said that ARP funds **can – and should - be used to support family and community engagement strategies**, such as:

- Targeted, intensive tutoring and extended learning opportunities (e.g., summer or afterschool programs) in partnership with non-profit and community-based organizations
- Family education and family literacy services
- Family engagement and dual capacity building for staff and families of English learners
- Ongoing outreach, translation services, and surveys of families, students, educators, and other staff to better understand and address their perceptions, needs, and concerns about creating a safe and positive learning environment.

How Much K-12 Education Relief Funding Will Your State Receive?

- ✓ Find the map at <http://edtrust.org/strategies-to-solve-unfinished-learning>
- ✓ How much is your state receiving? Once you find out, share it in the chat.



Note: K-12 Federal Relief Funding includes three rounds of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. It does not include governor's funds, higher education

<https://edtrust.org/strategies-to-solve-unfinished-learning/>



The Education Trust
edtrust.org

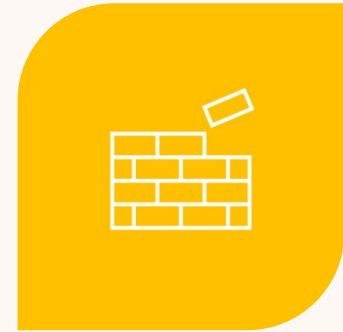
To build authentic partnerships with families and communities during COVID-19 recovery – and beyond – district and school leaders should:



BUILD TRUST



BUILD TRANSPARENCY



BUILD CAPACITY



Building Trust




The solutions:

POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE: Improving how the school community experiences school requires systemic change (e.g. making the discipline policy less about punishment and more about learning and growing).

BELONGING: Celebrating Cultural and racial diversity in classrooms and in the wider community

SYSTEMIC CHANGE: It also requires making individual changes, like addressing teaching practices that influence how students feel in school.

INFORMATION SHARING: Purposeful, clear, and consistent communication with families and the school community



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a grid of blue dots and a solid blue horizontal bar at the bottom.

What is included
in a positive and
inclusive school
environment?

Positive relationships among and between staff and students and school buildings and families.

A safe environment where students feel they belong, and equitable supports to meet high expectations.

The opportunity for all students to be challenged to reach their full potential.



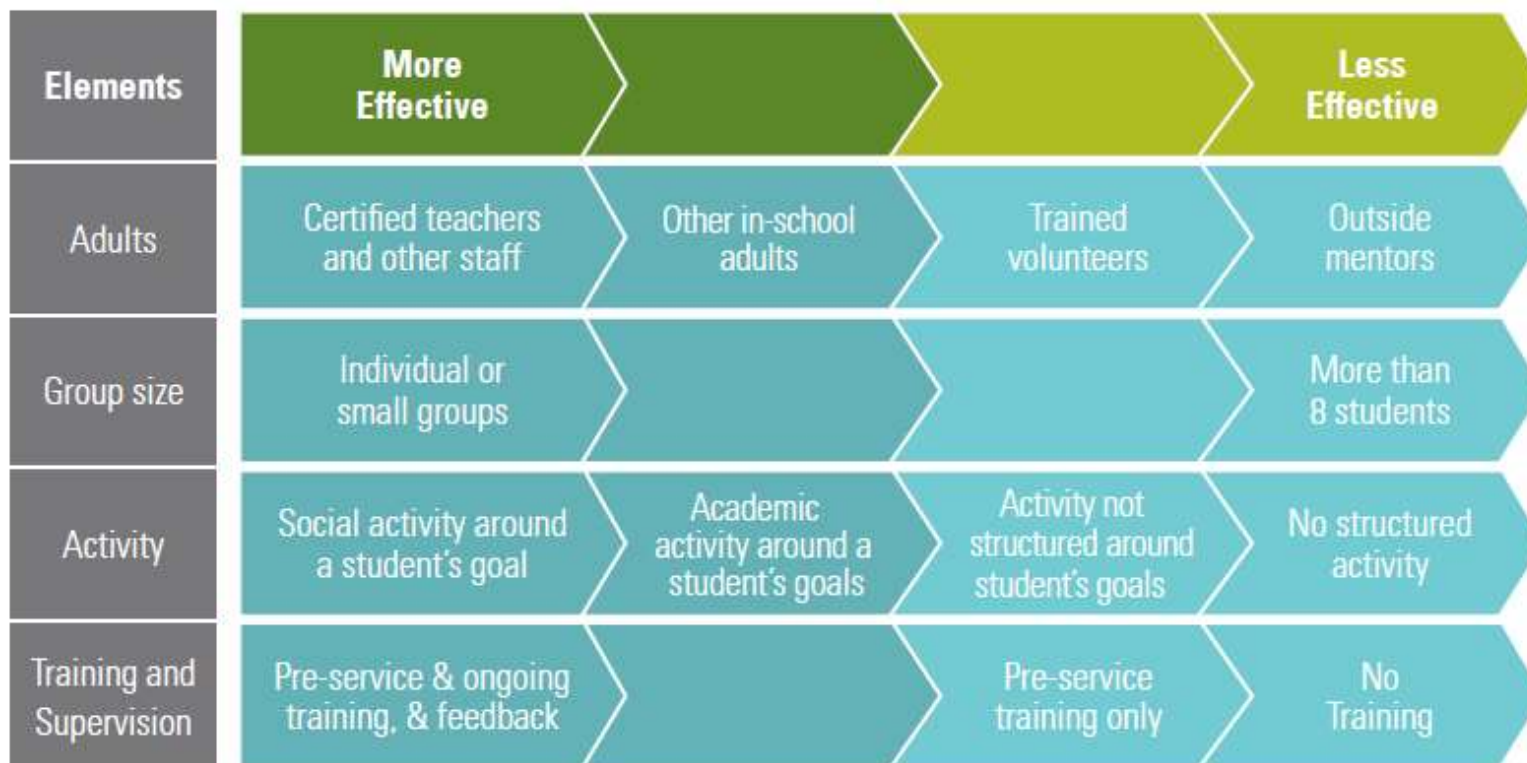
FOSTERING BELONGING THROUGH STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Strong relationships and connections to schools and the caring educators who teach and work within buildings will be key to the successful implementation of any evidence-based academic intervention to address unfinished learning.

BUILDING DEVELOPMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS	
Elements	Sample Actions (and Explanations)
Express Care	<p>Be dependable (Be someone I can trust)</p> <p>Listen (Really pay attention)</p> <p>Encourage (Praise my efforts and achievements)</p> <p>Believe in me (Make me feel known and valued)</p>
Challenge Growth	<p>Expect my best (Expect me to live up to my potential)</p> <p>Hold me accountable (Insist I take responsibility for my actions)</p> <p>Help me reflect on failures (Help me learn from my mistakes)</p> <p>Stretch me (Push me to go further)</p>
Provide Support	<p>Navigate (Guide me through hard situations)</p> <p>Empower me (Build my confidence to take charge of my life)</p> <p>Advocate (Defend me when I need it)</p> <p>Set boundaries (Establish limits to keep me on track)</p>
Share Power	<p>Respect me (Take me seriously and treat me fairly)</p> <p>Include me (Involve me in decisions that affect me)</p> <p>Collaborate (Work with me to solve problems and reach goals)</p> <p>Let me lead (Create opportunities for me to take action)</p>
Expand Possibilities	<p>Inspire (Inspire me to see possibilities for my future)</p> <p>Broaden Horizons (Expose me to new experiences, ideas, and places)</p> <p>Connect (Introduce me to more people who can help me)</p>

HOW EFFECTIVE IS RELATIONSHIP BUILDING?

We looked at the research to help leaders navigate these complicated decisions. The chart below shows the most effective elements of relationship building strategies in schools.



SYSTEMIC CHANGE:



POLICY CHANGE: updating policies and working with schools, community groups, parents and student advocates to improve implementation.



TRANSPARENCY: sharing disaggregated data, regular communication, student and family engagement strategies.



PRACTICE CHANGE: regular professional development, addressing educator mindset, addressing the well-being of educators, recruiting and retaining educators of color

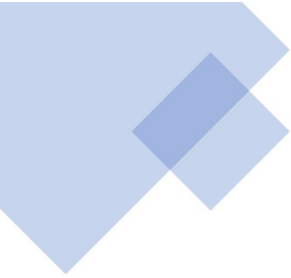


Building Transparency

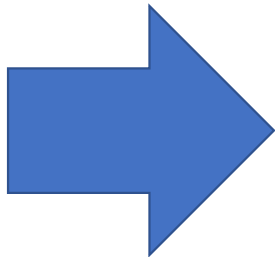


INFORMATION SHARING

- Making sure all school materials are translated into family's home languages
- Being aware of who the loudest voices typically are and inviting families racially and culturally diverse parents to offer solutions
- Ensuring all school policies are clear, transparent and evenly applied (discipline policies, grading policies, enrollment in advanced coursework)
- Ensuring students and families understand the value of different course offerings
- Professional development



If adults don't engage with families, welcome the cultures and values from their communities, and work to change the system to affirm and support students of color, this rift will continue to place additional social-emotional burdens on their students.



CHANGING SYSTEMS AND POLICIES



FOSTER STUDENT BELONGING



CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL



PROVIDE ACADEMIC AND HOLISTIC SUPPORTS





Building Capacity

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships (Version 2)



www.dualcapacity.org

Panel



Tia Hatchett
Senior Manager of
Family Engagement
Future Forward



Stephanie Parra
Executive Director
All in Education



Dr. Eyal Bergman
Senior Vice
President
Learning Heroes



Dr. Keri Randolph
Chief Strategy
Officer
Metro Nashville
Public Schools



Lakisha Young
Co-Founder & CEO
The Oakland REACH



Questions?

Breakout Groups

Group 1: Eyal Bergman, Learning Heroes

Group 2: Tia Hatchett & Kate Bauer-Jones, Future Forward

Group 3: Stephanie Parra & Livier Delgadillo, All in Education

Group 4: Keri Randolph, Metro Nashville Public Schools

Group 5: Lakisha Young, The Oakland REACH





Whole Group Share Out



We love your feedback!

<https://tinyurl.com/ULworkshop2>



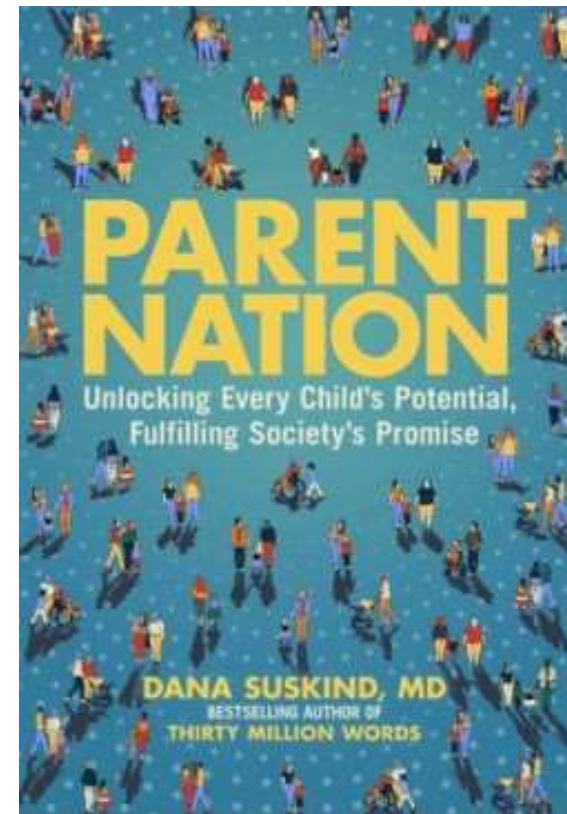
Resources for Family & Community Partnership

- [Collaborating to Transform and Improve Education Systems: A Playbook for Family-School Engagement](#), Brookings
- [District Guidebook for Launching Tutoring Program\(s\) in Partnership with Community Organization\(s\)](#), Chiefs for Change
- [ED COVID-19 Reopening Handbook – Volume 1](#)
- [Embracing A New Normal: Toward A More Liberatory Approach to Family Engagement](#), Carnegie
- [Family Engagement is Key for Student Success During COVID-19 Recovery and Beyond](#), The Education Trust
- [Impact of Family Engagement](#), Youth.gov
- [Strategies to Solve Unfinished Learning](#), The Education Trust
- [Student-Teacher Relationships Matter: 4 Strategies for Building a Positive School Climate](#), Panorama
- [The School Community Journal Vol 31, Issue 2](#), School Community Network
- [U.S. Department of Education Use of ESSER Funds Guidance](#)



Resources for Family & Community Partnership

The Education Trust's partners at the University of Chicago's [TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health](#) are giving parents and advocates an opportunity to pre-order a free copy of "[Parent Nation: Unlocking Every Child's Potential, Fulfilling Society's Promise](#)," a forthcoming book by Dr. Dana Suskind, founder and co-director of the center. "Parent Nation" examines the neuroscience of early childhood development and how it can guide us toward a future where all children have an opportunity to live up to their potential. The book blends the science of foundational brain development with history, political science, and the lived experiences of families around the U.S. Sign up [here](#) to receive a copy of this resource.





Workshop Series

- Session 1
 - Setting the Stage
- Session 2
 - School, Family & Community Partnerships
- Session 3
 - Addressing Unfinished Learning Given Staffing Shortages – January/February 2022
- Session 4
 - Supporting Social Emotional AND Academic Development – February/March 2022
- Session 5
 - Continuing to Support Student Learning Through the Pandemic & Beyond – April 2022
- Session 6
 - Synthesizing our Learning – May 2022

Keep in touch



Kayla Patrick
Kpatrick@edtrust.org



Allison Rose Socol
Asocol@edtrust.org



Marissa Alberty
Malberty@edtrust.org

