

Implementing Successful Community Engagement: A Study of Other Districts

December 15, 2015

Key Findings

1. A strong mission and vision for the end-goal of the engagement strategy is essential
 - i. Who do you want to engage?
 - ii. School v. District Level
 - iii. Strategies outside of structures that may not promote inclusivity
 2. Form the foundations of a relationship first
 3. Engage community members where they live-- within their own neighborhoods
 4. Create a feedback loop on success of engagement strategies
 5. Be visible
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Districts Profiled

Farmington School District, Michigan

Enrollment: 10,000 students

- Farmington African American Parent Network
- Multi-engagement structures for ELL families
 - parent outreach
 - education forums
- Neighborhood meetings
- Events-based community engagement identified through community forums

Districts Profiled

Arlington School District, Virginia

Enrollment: 25,000 students

- Project Interaction- resources for teacher designed family engagement
- *PARTICIPA* Workshop Series
- Scaling UP: Family and Community Engagement Working Group
- Parent Leadership Initiatives
- Development of a FACE policy
 - encapsulates Arlington's vision

Districts Profiled

Harrisonburg School District, Virginia

Enrollment: 5900 students

- Relationship-based model
- Home-School Liaisons
- Business Advisory Partnerships
- Inter-faith Partnerships
- Local University Partnerships
- Rotary Club Partnerships
- Division Leadership Teams
 - Equity Through Excellence
- Staff and Leadership Visibility
 - home-visits; community events

Districts Profiled

Cecil County School District, Maryland

Enrollment: 15,859 students

- School Engagement Committees
- Parent Forums for School Improvement
- Business and Education Partner Alliance Council (BEPAC)
 - mentorships between businesses and students