

Meet our Presenters



Sherri Wilson
Senior Director of
Training & Engagement



Margaret Caspe
Senior Research
Consultant

National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement



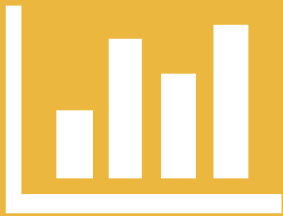
OUR MISSION

Advancing high-impact policies and practices for family, school, and community engagement to promote child development and improve student achievement.



OUR VISION

A world where family engagement is universally practiced as an essential strategy for improving children's learning and advancing equity.



POLL QUESTION

What's your role?

Director of Food Services

The Title I schools were going on a trip to the circus. We wanted to do something over and above and not give them the typical cold field trip meal.

As it turned out, there was no place at the venue to feed the kids so we when they came back to the school, we tried to simulate what they would get when they were at the circus



Assistant Director of Transportation

Often our people are the first people families see in the morning and the last people they see in the day.

We get in at 4:30am and don't leave until every bus is back safely. We collaborate with community centers to address bus stop challenges. If a stop needs to be moved, we might arrange for students to wait safely on their property. Building these connections strengthens our community and helps families.





THINKING ABOUT FAMILY, SCHOOL, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: BEFORE

The Metaphor

Just as a space launch relies on a team of people working together to plan and complete a mission, families, schools and communities can work together to launch children's learning.

This involves planning successful learning by collaborating at the start of the school year.

And when families, schools, and communities work together throughout the year on their shared mission, student learning takes off.







**Students
Succeed When
Families,
Schools, and
Communities
Join Together.**



Family and Community Engagement in education is a shared responsibility among families, schools, and communities to support student learning.

FAMILIES guide, support and advocate for student learning.

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES reach out to neighborhood families and build relationships, help reinforce families' goals and co-construct practices and policies together.

Family Engagement Takes Place Everywhere, All The Time

6

6,000 hours of awake time we all have annually, including children

1

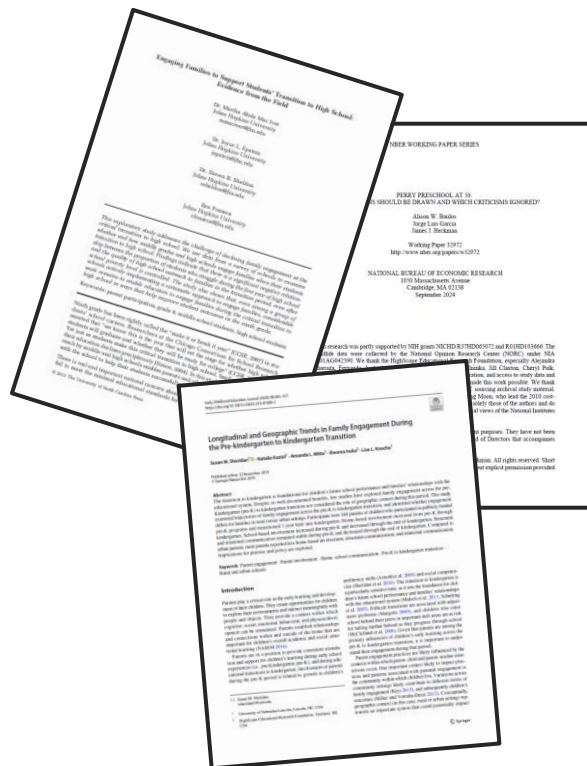
1,000 hours the average US student attends school annually (with 100% attendance)

5

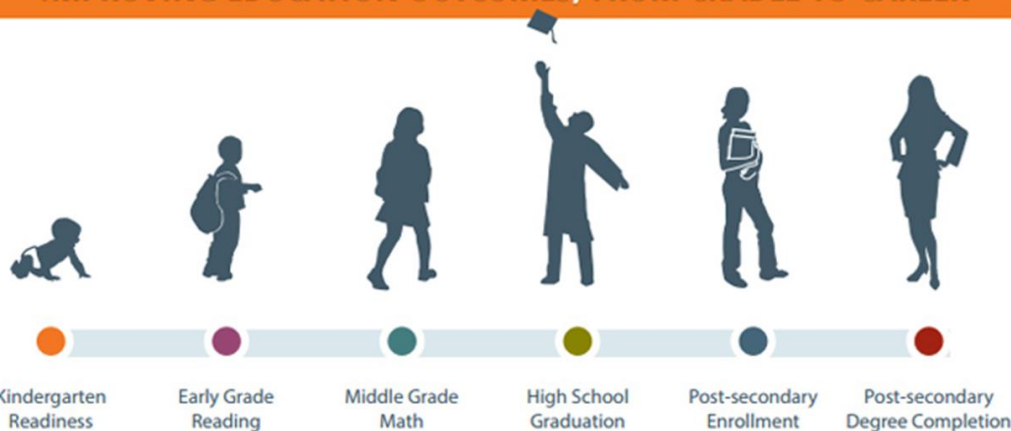
5,000 available hours to impact, educate and enhance the learning of American children beyond status quo



Family Engagement Takes Place Across Time



IMPROVING EDUCATION OUTCOMES, FROM CRADLE TO CAREER



Family and Community Engagement in education makes a difference.



STUDENTS

Have improved school readiness, higher student achievement, better social skills and behavior, increased likelihood of high school graduation.



FAMILIES

Experience increased family well-being, leadership, knowledge and skills.



TEACHERS

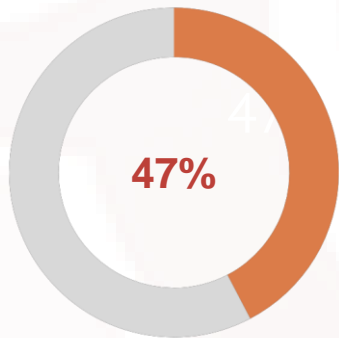
Report increased job satisfaction and reduced likelihood of leaving the profession.



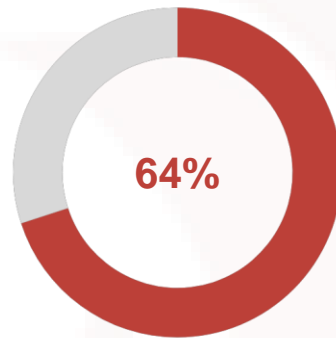
COMMUNITY

Provides increased opportunities for all families and more healthy communities

In a survey of over 500 family-facing professionals



Only 47% of family-facing professionals agree or strongly agree that they were properly prepared to engage families



Only 64% of family-facing professionals agree or strongly agree that their school provides them with professional learning for family engagement

The Family Engagement Core Competencies

Ways to Think About Our Work With Families



REFLECT

Look inward to develop cultural humility, embrace equity, and respect and value the diversity of families.



CONNECT

Build trusting relationships with families based on mutual respect and foster social networks among families and communities.



LEAD

Take part in the broader field and advocate alongside families for systems change to champion equity.



COLLABORATE

Co-construct and curriculum, programs, services, and policies with families to expand student learning and development and communicate academic progress.

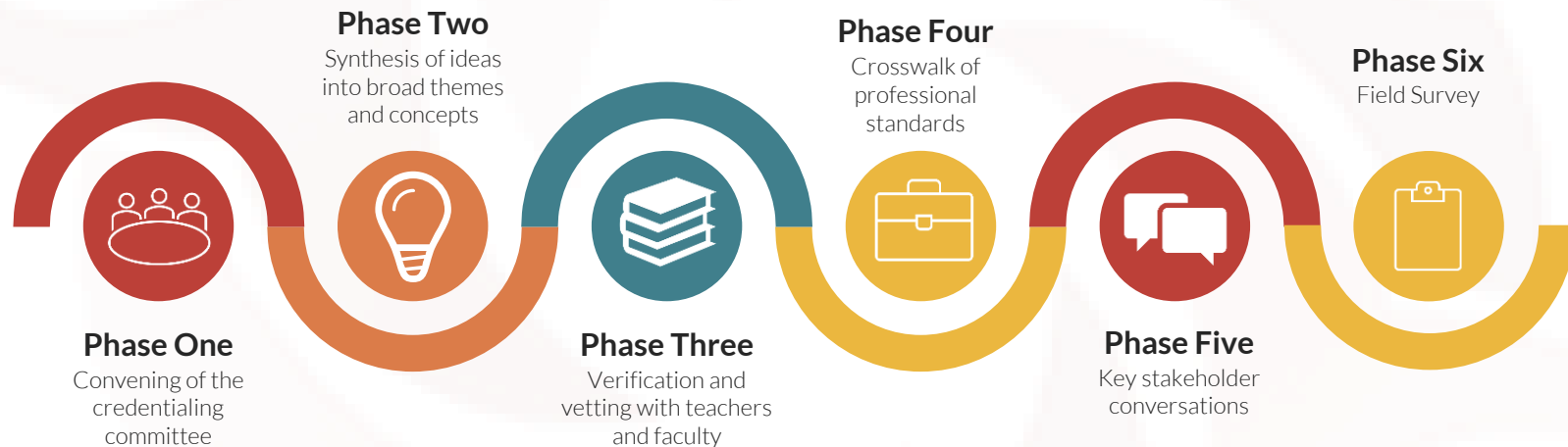


FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CORE COMPETENCIES:

A Body of Knowledge, Skills,
and Dispositions for Family-
Facing Professionals



Our Process





1. Respect, Honor, and Value Families

- a. Examine, respect, and value the cultural and linguistic diversity of families and communities
- b. Explore, understand, and honor with families how children develop, grow, and change from birth through adulthood across settings, and how these changes affect families



2. Embrace Equity Throughout Family Engagement

- a. Look inward to develop cultural humility, cognitive flexibility, and perspective-taking skills to practice anti-bias and equitable family and community engagement.
- b. Reflect on how history and social context influence family engagement systems and practices.



REFLECT





CHATBOX SHARE

**What's a strategy you have used
that has been helpful in learning
about families?**



3. Build Trusting Reciprocal Relationships with Families

- a. Cultivate mutual trust
- b. Communicate effectively
- c. Create welcoming environments
- d. Reach out actively to families, especially those who might be most underserved



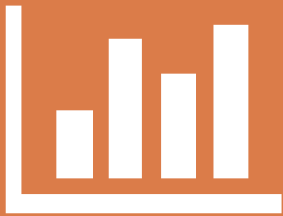
4. Foster Community Partnerships for Learning and Family Well-being

- a. Build community partnerships to support children and families
- b. Establish systems to expand how families link to community resources
- c. Cultivate social support networks and connections among families



CONNECT





POLL QUESTION

**How do you build trust
with families?**



5. Co-Construct Learning Opportunities with Families

- Build upon family knowledge as resources for learning
- Join with families for planning, implementing, and evaluating learning opportunities and services



6. Link Family and Community Engagement to Learning and Development

- Develop data systems that are accessible to each and every family
- Create conversations around developmental and academic progress
- Expand on family learning in the home and community



COLLABORATE





CHATBOX SHARE

What's a strategy you have used to link families to literacy and reading, math, and well-being?



7. Take Part in Lifelong Learning

- a. Identify and participate as a member of the family engagement profession
- b. Engage in professional learning to grow family engagement knowledge and skills
- c. Use data to assess, evaluate, and improve family and community engagement



8. Advocate for Systems Change

- a. Identify and examine new and existing policies and practices to further family and community engagement
- b. Champion equity as an essential element of family and community engagement and stand with families for equitable educational systems and outcomes
- c. Reframe the conversation around family and community engagement to expand public understanding





POLL QUESTION

**Have you advocated for
change to support family and
community engagement in
your setting?**

VOTE:

- ☐ **Something I've done in the past**
- ☐ **Something I'm actively doing**
- ☐ **Something I'd like to do**
- ☐ **Something I need to learn more about**

Questions & Conversations

Family Engagement

What You'll Learn

In this stack you will learn how to build relationships and engage families and community members in school related activities.

Who Should Apply

- All Educators

8

micro-
credentials

15

Approximate hours each

Description

Strengthening family, school, and community bonds is a critical factor in raising student achievement, closing achievement gaps, and attaining school improvement goals. In this stack you will learn a variety of ways that you can strengthen your relationships with families and community members.



NAFSCE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR FAMILY, SCHOOL, AND
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Brought to you by:



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
IN EDUCATION



Virtual

October 6-7

In-person

October 8-10

New Orleans 2025

Register Today

NAFSCE Member Spotlight

NAFSCE members include diverse early childhood and K-12 educators, family liaisons and coordinators, family-facing professionals, parent leaders, policy makers, state and local education administrators, higher education faculty, researchers, and community and national organizational leaders committed to FSCE from cradle to career.

Cynthia Santos, Member Since 2014

"NAFSCE is part of my on-boarding for new family engagement staff. You all phenomenal job of advocating for family engagement and keeping us updated on the latest news and practices."



Barbara Scherr, Member Since 2014

"As a Family Engagement Coordinator in Maryland, it's so nice to be able to connect with like-minded peers across the country through the NAFSCE network."



**Not yet a member?
Scan the QR code and join today!**

Let's stay Connected

Margaret Caspe



601 King St. Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314



NAFSCE.org

