VI.16.01 – Family Engagement & Parental Involvement

The purpose of family engagement & parental involvement is two-fold: (1) opportunities for active and meaningful engagement in their children’s education; and (2) opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

1. Family Engagement Opportunities (ESSA, Sec. 8101(39)) – Participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education in after-school and school; and
- That parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

2. Family Literacy and Related Services (ESSA, Sec. 8101(24)) – Services provided to families that are of sufficient intensity in terms of hours, and of sufficient duration, to make sustainable changes in a family, and that integrate the following activities:

- Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children;
- Training for parents regarding how to be the primary teacher for their children and full partners in the education of their children; and
- Parent literacy training that leads to economic self-sufficiency.

Successful Family Engagement and Literacy may:

- Be based on the needs of the family through surveys, focus groups and family input;
- Include parents/families in the planning process;
- Include a calendar in advance for parents/families to prepare for services/opportunities (when possible);
- Provide ample invites and reminders of offerings, which should include a variety of sources (i.e. in-person, phone calls, letters, student made invitation, etc.);
- Be the culture of the campus.
### Family Engagement Opportunities
(opportunities for active and meaningful engagement)

- Relationship Building Activities (Community Social Events)
- Health and Wellness Classes & Programs (running club, yoga, open gym)
- Classes/Workshops (Interest/Parenting)
- College Applications, Scholarships, Assistance
- Coffee Talks, Muffins w/ Mom, Donuts w/ Dad
- Incoming Freshman Nights
- Two-Way Communication
- Social Media Communication
- Parent Drop off and Pick Up Greetings
- Award Ceremonies during Assemblies
- Front Office or High Traffic Areas Bulletin Boards/ Marquees
- Newsletters/Calendars
- Communication in Multiple Languages
- Welcoming Environment
- Liaisons to improve communication
- Physical and Emotional Safety for Families at School
- Positive Association
- Regular communication with parents about their child’s education progress.
- Education of teachers and school personnel in the value of contributions

### Family Literacy and Related Services
(services provided that make sustainable changes in a family)

- Adult Literacy and other Adult Education
- American Dream Academy
- Increased Graduation Rate Seminars
- College Applications, Scholarships, Assistance
- Career Education
- Showcases of after school classes
- Monthly or Quarterly Events (related in content – series)
- STEM/STEAM Awareness and Project Events
- Take Home Activities
- Make It/ Take It
- Curriculum Nights
- Interactive Student/Parent Activities such as Gardening, Library, Computer Lab, Book and Craft Clubs
- Targeted Theme Series (Youth Development, Family Support, Parenting and Academic)
- Virtual YouTube or other Video Viewing with response ticket
- TED Talks
- Parents on Demand
- Webinars
- Parent Resource and Opportunities Centers

### Shared Responsibility and Leadership
(school/home partnership)

- Shadow Child
- Volunteer
- Activities that are linked to school academic goals
- Advocacy
- APTT (Academic Parent Teacher Teams)
- Parent Organizations Participation
- Parent Universities
- Home Visits
- Student Led Conferences
- Vison/Future Goal Setting/Planning
- Parents Involved in Development of School Plan, Effective Activities and Decision Making
- Data Driven Information Nights
- Participation on Parent Advisory Committee
- Formal Parent Leadership Program with Certificate of Completion
- Decision Making in Educational Programs
- Parent Capacity Building Workshops
- Active Relationships between family/schools
- Parent Institute for Quality Education Trainings
- Full Service Community School

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For more resources visit 21st CCLC Youth Development - [www.azed.gov/21stcclc/youth-development/](http://www.azed.gov/21stcclc/youth-development/)

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers afterschool program is funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the Arizona Department of Education. For more information visit: [http://www.azed.gov/21stcclc/](http://www.azed.gov/21stcclc/)