

Distance Learning Hot Topics Series

Leveraging Family Engagement to Foster Student Success in Distance & Blended Learning



Hot Topics Series Resource Handout

Session 8

Implementing Best Practices in Distance Learning & Family Engagement

ccee
California Collaborative
for Educational Excellence

 San Bernardino County
Superintendent of Schools

Family Engagement in Distance Learning



Big Ideas for Distance Learning

- Family engagement is the process used to build genuine relationships with families. Relationships with families support overall family well-being and children's healthy development. When families are engaged, partnerships are created that have a common focus—helping children grow and thrive.
- As we strive to develop family partnerships in distance learning, this first begins with recognizing that family engagement is more than family involvement. It is a genuine and authentic partnership with families with a common focus on supporting students so everyone is growing and thriving in their learning and development
- Family engagement is one of the single most important factors in helping students succeed in school. Parents, families, and other caring adults provide the primary educational environment for children early in life and can reinforce classroom learning throughout the school years.



Family Engagement Strategies

1. Strengthen relationships with families to develop an authentic and open teacher-student-family triad during distance learning
2. Build capacity with families as an extension of the classroom community and your greatest resource during distance learning
3. Support families to focus on learning and offer guidance in new distance learning experiences



Engage the family as a partner in Distance Learning:

- Identify distance learning practices to support priority areas of family engagement: effectiveness, equity, and cultural responsiveness
- Leverage Back to School Night and Open House virtual events to provide essential information to families
- Make a plan to schedule at least one individual check in appointment with families
- Identify school and community organizations that can provide responsive support to families
- Attend school events where families will be present and engaged
- Explore ways to encourage and recognize positive family efforts and experiences

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What do you already **KNOW** about this topic?

What do you still **WONDER** about this topic?

What new information or strategies did you **LEARN**?

What will you **DO** to apply what you have learned?



LINKS & RESOURCES

[CDE Guidance: Family Engagement Framework](#)

[CA Dept of Ed Guidance: Family Engagement Toolkit](#)

[California Community Engagement Initiative Theory of Action](#)

[Engaging Families in Distance Learning](#)

[Engaging Families to Support Distance Learning During School Closures](#)

[SBCSS Parent Summit Homepage](#)

[SBCSS Parent Summit Keynote Presentation, Dr. Yvette Harris](#)

[SBCSS Parent Summit Workshop Presentation, Dr. Yvette Harris](#) [Tips for Engaging Families in Distance Learning](#)

[US Dept of Ed Guidance: Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships](#)