Supporting Families with Self-Determination

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Creating a Positive Future Through Family Engagement

WHEN FAMILIES ARE ENGAGED:
Students achieve more, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial background, or the parents' education level.

Anne Henderson and Karen Mapp
Focus on Family Strengths

- **Identifying family strengths is critical to engaging families as partners in their children’s education.** To identify and make use of family strengths, educators may need to shift from a deficit-based model, which focuses on what families are not doing, to a strengths-based model, which acknowledges that families want to help their students succeed (Moore, 2011).
Never too Early, Never too Late!

Expect family engagement throughout the life course of the student

- Path to Graduation tip sheets

https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Parent-Info-Fact-Sheets.aspx
Envisioning Possibilities

Families don’t know what they don’t know!

• Provide tools and resources
• Make connections
  • Ga Parent Mentor Partnership
    https://parentmentors.org/our-mentors/find-a-mentor/
• Encourage exploration
  • Shared experience, field trips, movies, articles
She Said, He Said - Episode 23 - Transition Tuesdays with Jane and Joe
An Enviable Life!

A life that we all want, and the supports needed to live life to the fullest.
-Ann Turnbull

• A Meaningful Day
• Friends and Family
• Belonging – an expectation for showing up
• Recreation & Fun
Thank you!

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