

Changing the Mindset: Understanding the How-To's of Parent Engagement

***Title I Principals' Summit
DeKalb County School District
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Title I Parental Involvement

Title I, Part A provides for *substantive parental involvement* at *every level of the program*, such as in the development and implementation of the *State and local plan*, and in carrying out the *LEA and school improvement provisions*. **Section 1118** contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for SEAs, LEAs, and schools related to involving parents in their children's education. It is this section that identifies critical points in the process of improving teaching and learning where *parents and the community can intervene and assist in school improvement*.

(Continued)



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Title I Parental Involvement

Although section 1118 is extensive in scope and has many requirements for LEAs and schools, the *intent is not to be burdensome*. These provisions reflect *good practice in engaging families in helping to educate their children*, because *students do better when parents are actively involved* in the education process, both at *home and at school*.



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Purpose of the Law

**Parental
Involvement**

**Parent & Family
Engagement**

**Letter of
the Law**



**Spirit of
the Law**



Purpose of the Law



Parent Involvement Plan



School-Parent Compact



Communication



Annual Evaluation



Schoolwide Plan



Staff Development



Parent Training



Community Partnerships



Title I Meeting



Expenditures



Purpose of the Law



Parent Involvement Plan:
Engage all parents



Staff Development:
Improve learning



School-Parent Compact:
Support student learning



Parent Training:
Assist parents



Communication:
Increase understanding



Community Partnerships:
Strengthen resources



Annual Evaluation:
Find areas for change



Title I Meeting:
Welcome and encourage



Schoolwide Plan:
Impact student achievement



Expenditures:
Build opportunities



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

- **Parental Involvement:** Parent participation in the systems and activities of the school. There are opportunities for parent participation in a variety of program activities that support student learning and success, including policy and program decision making.
- **Parent/Family Engagement:** Goal-directed relationships between staff and families that are mutual, culturally responsive, and that support what is best for students and families both individually and collectively. Staff and families share responsibility as true partners for student learning.



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

Parental Involvement

Ideas and energy come from the schools and government mandates

Schools are leading with their institutional self-interests and desires –
leading with their mouths

Parent Engagement

Ideas and energy emerge from parent/community needs and priorities elicited from parents by staff

Schools are leading with the parents' self-interests in an effort to develop genuine partnerships –
leading with their ears



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

Parental Involvement

Pushing parents to do something about what school staff sees as important for their child

Completing tasks selected by the school staff – or simply sharing services and information

Parent Engagement

Parents are challenged to do something about what they feel is important to them and to their child

Parents are leaders who are integral to identifying a vision and goals while then performing the tasks needed to achieve them



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

Parental Involvement

Schools do things for parents or tell them what they should be doing with their child

Schools tend to focus on supporting students by strengthening and assisting school programs and priorities

Parent Engagement

Schools help parents do things for themselves and elicit ideas about what services families need

Schools support students by developing parent relationships and working with parents to improve their school community



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

Parental Involvement

Schools see it as the responsibility of one staff member (Parent Involvement Coordinator)

Revolves around outputs – number of parents who show up for a school event

Parent Engagement

Schools see it as the responsibility of all staff members embedded into the school culture/priorities

Revolves around parent and student progress in achievement – evidence of positive, goal directed relationships



Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

Parental Involvement

Revolves around a small percentage of families involved in school leadership opportunities

Collect data from children and families on information about parent participation

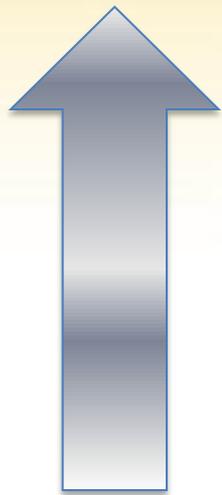
Parent Engagement

Revolves around reaching all families in various goal directed ways

Utilize data from children and families to improve services to increase student academic achievement



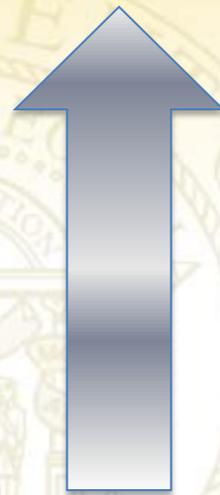
Formula for Success



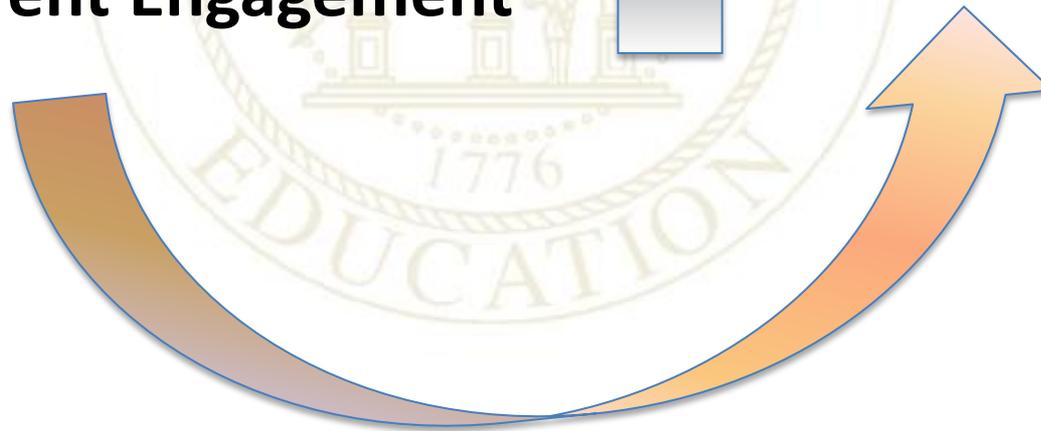
Parental Involvement

&

Parent Engagement



**Improved Academic
Achievement &
Student Success**



Formula for Success

QUALITY FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS ARE:

SYSTEMIC

Family Engagement is purposely designed as a core component of educational goals, such as school readiness and student achievement

INTEGRATED

Embedded into structures and processes including professional development, teaching and learning, community collaboration, and the use of data for continuous improvement and accountability

SUSTAINABLE

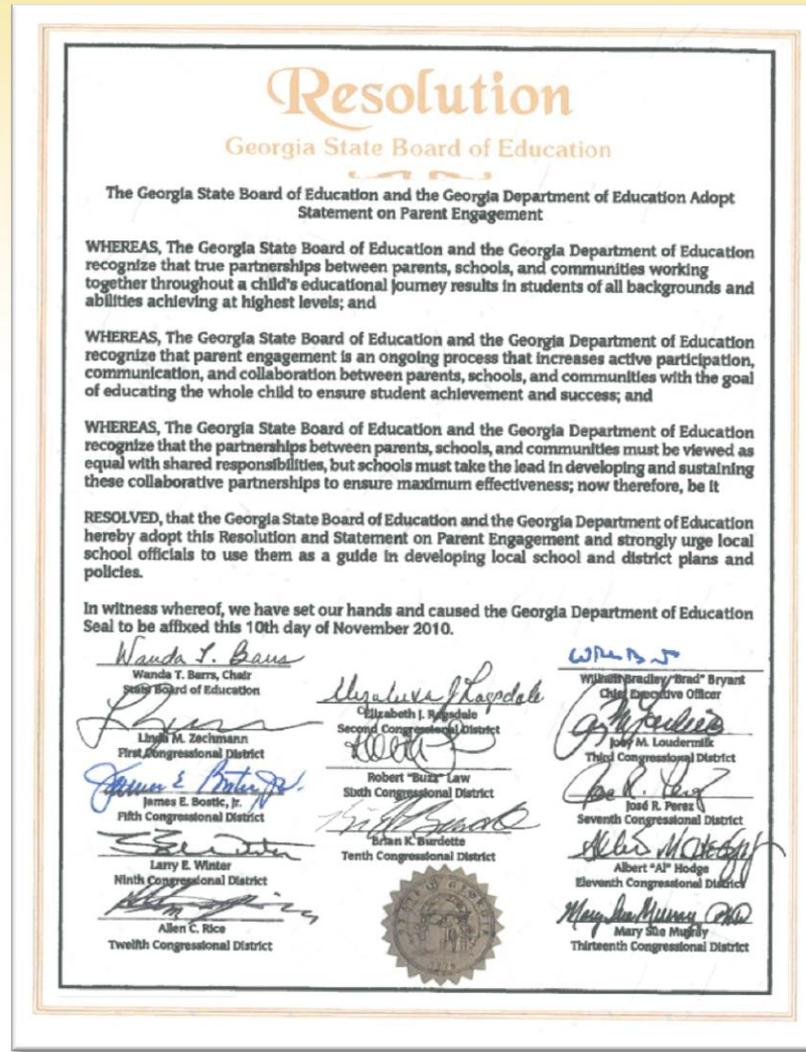
Will have adequate resources, including public-private partnerships, to ensure effective strategies with the power to impact student learning and achievement



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Weiss, Lopez, and Rosenberg, *Beyond random acts: Family, school and community engagement as an integral part of education reform*, 2010.

Setting the Stage for Parent Engagement



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Setting the Stage for Parent Engagement

Resolution

“WHEREAS, THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZE THAT THE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PARENTS, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITIES MUST BE VIEWED AS EQUAL WITH SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT *SCHOOLS* MUST TAKE THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING THESE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO ENSURE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS...”



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Setting the Stage for Parent Engagement

It starts with YOU!

Supportive Administrators

- Responsive to input
- Garner support
- Balance priorities
- Set high expectations
- Encourage innovation
- Maintain a constructive school culture



Setting the Stage for Parent Engagement

YOU make the difference!

Meaningful Professional Development

- Bridging gaps between home and school culture
- Helping families meet their basic needs
- Assuming the best intentions of parents
- Empowering families by providing them with encouragement, respect and a voice in decision-making
- Providing opportunities to build social capital





What Does Building Parent Capacity Mean?



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BUILD = To Grow or Develop

+

Parent

+

CAPACITY = Capability to perform/produce
Reaching maximum potential
Power to learn/retain knowledge



Building Parent Capacity Is...

Equipping parents with skills and competencies which they would not otherwise have.

Training or mentoring that increases the skills of people or of a community.

Creating a sustainable infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of parents to ensure academic achievement and student success.



Building Parent Capacity

The National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships, which the State Board of Education adopted in 2010 as Georgia's Family Engagement Standards, provide an effective framework for carrying out the six **shalls**, the eight **mays** under the law, and a school or district's Title I parent involvement policy/program.

Therefore, the shalls are the activities you must be sure to implement and the Family Engagement Standards are the framework to help ensure effective parent involvement policy and plans.



PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships



Family – School Partnerships are how and what parents, schools, and communities can do together to support student success.



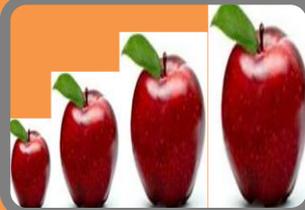
Innovative Parent Engagement Practices



Meeting requirements with innovative ideas



Building Capacity: 14 Indicators



K-12 and LEA

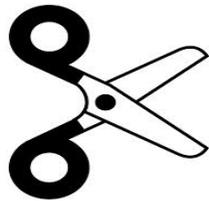


Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

1

“Kindergarten Ready” – Kindergarten St. Charles Parish Public Schools

- Assess pre-K students on state standards
- Offer parents ideas to help prepare their children
- Provide parents with valuable information
- Partner with pre-k programs
- Schedule on different days



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1

“Kindergarten Ready” – Kindergarten St. Charles Parish Public Schools

Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children

Section 1118 (e)(4)



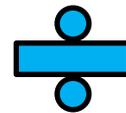
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2

“Lunch Break Make and Take” – 1st Grade Sunset Acres Elementary School

- Opportunity to welcome rising parents at the school to meet teachers and gain strategies
- Hands-on, take home learning activities
- Questions and answers about expectations
- Teachers available during planning periods/lunches
- Different advertisements and personal invitations



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

2

“Lunch Break Make and Take” – 1st Grade Sunset Acres Elementary School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may arrange school meetings at a **variety of times**, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation*

Section 1118 (e)(10)

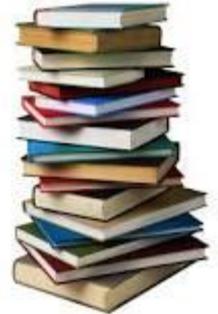


Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

3

“Taking Aim” – 2nd Grade Kennewick School District

- Plan workshops to occur after parent-teacher conferences for parents of struggling students
- Coordinate with teachers to invite identified parents
- Provide resources in math, reading, and homework
- Partner with foundations to donate books
- Invite local agencies to share information
- Offer student volunteers to work with younger children during workshops



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Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

3

“Taking Aim” – 2nd Grade Kennewick School District

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds **shall provide materials and training** to help parents to work with their children to **improve their children’s achievement**, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement*

Section 1118 (e)(2)



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

4

“Room Parent Program” – 3rd Grade

Indian Community School

- Designate parent volunteers to serve as liaisons to connect the teachers, parents, and students
- Contribute to students’ learning, communicate with other parents, assist teachers
- Establish guidelines, responsibilities and training
- Ask retiring Room Parents to train replacements



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4

“Room Parent Program” – 3rd Grade Indian Community School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may **train parents** to enhance the involvement of other parents*

Section 1118 (e)(9)



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5

“Reading Road Trip” – 4th Grade

Kingsley Elementary School

- Two journeys into reading with moms and dads to support literacy goals
- In the fall, students and dads use guide books to “drive” to 12 different locations to learn about landmarks/history
- In the spring, students and moms “transported” to a storyland to learn about 12 different stories and answer questions



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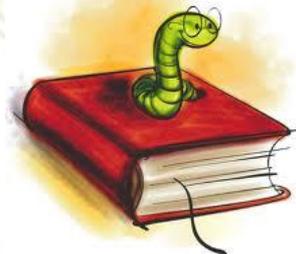
Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

5

“Reading Road Trip” – 4th Grade Kingsley Elementary School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may provide necessary **literacy training** from fund received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training*

Section 1118 (e)(9)



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6

“Road Map to Success” – 5th Grade

Pasco Elementary School

- Create awareness for school’s plans and activities for family and community engagement
- Develop a road map using the Wizard of Oz theme
- Include partnership activities, meetings, important dates aligned with action plans
- Use in meetings, planning committees, recruitment
- Showcase as presentations, posters, flyers, even an entire wall



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6

“Road Map to Success” – 5th Grade

Pasco Elementary School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds **shall** ensure that information related to school and parent **programs, meetings,** and other **activities** is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the **parents can understand***

Section 1118 (e)(5)



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7

“Family Reading Night” – 6th Grade

Lake Tyler Middle School

- Turn preparing for state tests into reading fun
- Parent and student rotate to different stations linked to state standards, such as board game station, laptop station, reading device station
- Modeled strategies for parents and students
- Partner with company to provide take home books
- Offer right after the school day ends to increase student participation



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7

“Family Reading Night” – 6th Grade

Lake Tyler Middle School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds **shall** provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State’s **academic** content standards and State student academic **achievement** standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a **child’s progress** and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children*



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

8

“School Action Teams” – 7th Grade Montclair Public Schools

- Research-based team structure increases parent involvement to impact student achievement
- “School Action Teams for Partnerships” (SATp)
- Activate the six types of involvement: parenting, communicating, volunteering, learning at home, decision-making and collaborating
- Increase parent attendance and enthusiasm



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

8

“School Action Teams” – 7th Grade Montclair Public Schools

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may adopt and implement **model approaches** to improving parental involvement*



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Section 1118 (e)(11)

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9

“Seeing is Believing” – 8th Grade Ochoa Middle School

- Brought teachers from the school to the community
- Partner with tour bus company to use buses
- Talk with parents and students in neighborhoods
- Share information and strategies for parents



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9

“Seeing is Believing” – 8th Grade Ochoa Middle School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds **shall** educate teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the **value and utility of contributions of parents**, and in how to **reach out** to, **communicate** with, and **work** with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school*

Section 1118 (e)(3)



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

10

“Book Swap” – 9th Grade Bell City School

- Partner with community organizations to sponsor two-day event for students and families
- Over 2,000 books donated by families, libraries, and community members
- Promote reading, collaboration, and community partnerships



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10

“Book Swap” – 9th Grade

Bell City School

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may develop appropriate roles for **community-based organizations** and **businesses** in parent involvement activities*



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Section 1118 (e)(13)

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11

“Connecting Parents” – 10th Grade

Minneapolis Public Schools

- Conduct parent training classes around orientation to school system, understanding courses, establishing academic standards, parenting tips, positive motivational strategies, and college preparation (seven week course)
- Provide child care services to increase participation

ABC
to GPA



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11

“Connecting Parents” – 10th Grade

Minneapolis Public Schools

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including **transportation** and **child care** costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions*

Section 1118 (e)(8)



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

12

“Staying Connected with Technology” – 11th Grade Little Rock Schools

- Help parents learn more about technology use
- View technology-based exhibits on Common Core, BYOD, impacting student achievement, social media advice
- Give parents resources, including a flash drive
- Result of parent feedback



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12

“Staying Connected with Technology” – 11th Grade Little Rock Schools

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds **shall** provide such other reasonable **support for parental involvement** activities under Title I as parents may request*



Section 1118 (e)(14)



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13

“Cultural Kaleidoscope” – 12th Grade Several schools

- Invite parents to assist with staff training
- Film families in their homes and neighborhoods and play video during staff meetings
- Encourage parents to speak at faculty meetings
- Share cultural differences, experiences and suggestions with staff and faculty



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

13

“Cultural Kaleidoscope” – 12th Grade Several schools

*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may **involve parents** in the development of **training** for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training*

Section 1118 (e)(6)



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices

14

“Team Spirit Celebration” – Bridgeport School District

- Coordinate Annual Parent Convention
- Display best practices from every school
- “District Leader for Partnership” provide resources, information, and guidance
- Vote on best ideas to generate enthusiasm
- Over 250 parents and 100 community members



Innovative Parent Engagement Practices



14

“Team Spirit Celebration” – Bridgeport School District

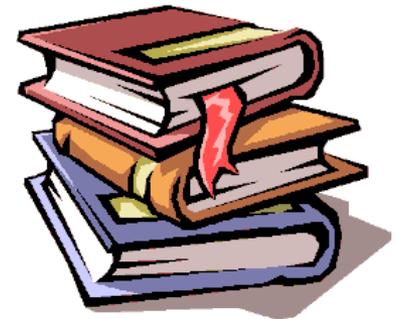
*Each school and local educational agency that receives Title I funds may establish a districtwide **parent advisory council** to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under Title I*

Section 1118 (e)(12)



References

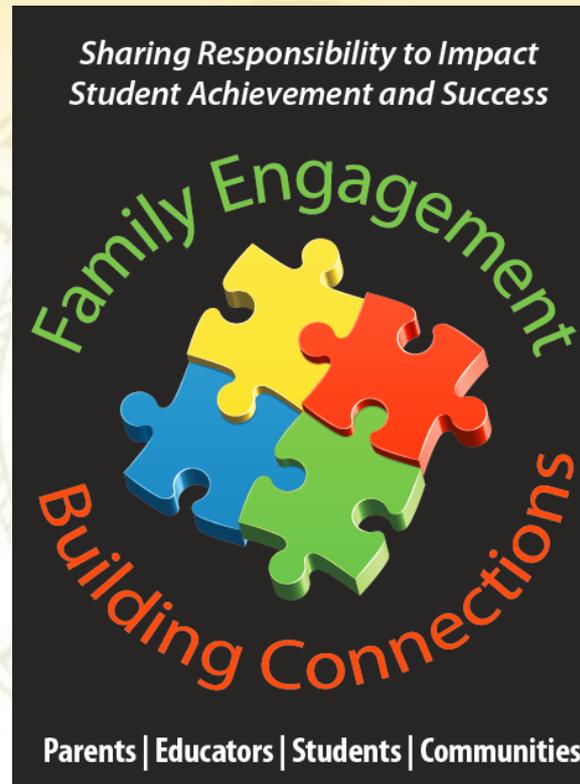
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and Parents
TOGETHER...**

**More Details
to Come...
Budget Now**



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Conference of
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Title I, Part A,
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and
United Way**

January 9 – 11, 2014

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Questions



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