Parent Engagement Poetic Pondering

Purpose: To learn and grow by sharing experiences and thoughts with our peers about the gratifications, challenges and importance of working with parents in the school and community.

In pairs or small groups (3-4 people), create your own six-word poems as answers to the questions below. A collection of some "famous" six-word poems are provided to illustrate the potential behind six words.

Sample Six-Word Poems:

- For sale: Baby shoes. Never worn. – Ernest Hemingway
- I am trying, in every regard. – Joan Rivers
- Well, I thought it was funny. – Stephen Colbert
- Big hair. Big heart. Big hurry. – Rachel Fershleiser
- Every child deserves all we have. – Camp Twin Lakes strategic plan
- Fifteen years since last professional haircut. – Dave Eggers

1. Why is parent involvement so important to you?

2. How can your work be challenging?

3. What is your favorite part about your work so far?

4. What surprises or "aha moments" have you already experienced?

Practicality: Use this activity at your next meeting in your school as an interactive way to start conversations and to encourage people to share their thoughts in an open and friendly manner. Create your own questions/prompts relative to the purpose of the meeting/event, and be prepared to see people have fun with the endless possibilities of creating six-word poems.

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