

EDUCATION PRINCIPLES PORTFOLIO

SECTION 2.1 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

-LENA BEASLEY-



THE IMAGES ABOVE SHOW ME AND THE STUDENTS FROM MY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INTERNSHIP (3RD GRADE CLASS) CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN DURING THEIR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY. AS YOU CAN SEE IN THE BACKGROUND (IF YOU LOOK CLOSE ENOUGH) THE PARENT VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO IN THE CLASSROOM, HELPING WITH SNACKS, GAMES, ETC. THIS IS A PERFECT VISUAL EXAMPLE OF HOW FAMILY MEMBERS/ CAREGIVERS CAN BE A PART OF THEIR CHILDREN’S “SCHOOL-LIFE” AND HELP SUPPORT THEM ON THE EDUCATION AND SCHOOL ASPECT OF THINGS.

FAMILY/CAREGIVERS

MY DEFINITION: FAMILY/CAREGIVERS, IN REGARDS TO FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, MOST NEARLY MEANS THE ACT OF EITHER A CHILD’S FAMILY MEMBER OR CAREGIVER PROVIDING THEM WITH THEIR PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS.

EXAMPLES OF DIVERSE FAMILY STRUCTURES INCLUDE...

- SINGLE PARENT HOMES
- BLENDED FAMILIES
- FAMILIES WITH ADOPTED CHILDREN
- FAMILIES WITH DISABLED CHILDREN
- FAMILIES WITH DISABLED PARENTS

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO HONOR DIVERSE FAMILY STRUCTURES: I BELIEVE THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HONOR DIVERSE FAMILY STRUCTURES BECAUSE A LOT OF DIVERSE FAMILIES ARE OFTEN FACED WITH MANY DIFFERENT OBSTACLES SUCH

AS FINANCIAL ISSUES, CHILD CARE ISSUES, ETC. AND ARE STILL EXPECTED TO PROVIDE JUST AS ANY OTHER FAMILY WOULD. ALSO, I BELIEVE (IN GENERAL) THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CELEBRATE EACH OTHER'S DIFFERENCES BECAUSE OUR DIFFERENCES ARE WHAT MAKE US WHO WE ARE. FOR EXAMPLE IMAGINE A CLASS WITH NO DIVERSITY WHATSOEVER - EVERYONE IS THE EXACT SAME PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY. NOW, COMPARE THAT WITH A CLASS THAT IS VERY DIVERSE - EVERYONE IS BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY DIFFERENT. DIVERSITY IS SO SIGNIFICANT NOT ONLY IN THE CLASSROOM BUT ALSO OUR WORLD IN GENERAL.

MY FAMILY

GROWING UP I HAVE ALWAYS HAD, AND STILL HAVE, A LOT OF SUPPORT FROM MY FAMILY. MY PARENTS HAVE NEVER HESITATED TO EMAIL MY TEACHERS WHEN BROUGHT WITH CONCERNS OF ANYTHING GOING ON IN SCHOOL. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN I WAS YOUNGER AND NEEDED SOME EXTRA HELP WITH MATH MY PARENTS IMMEDIATELY BEGAN LOOKING FOR NOTABLE MATH TUTORS IN CENTRAL OHIO FOR ME TO WORK WITH. AND THAT IS HOW THEY FOUND *MATH PLUS ACADEMY*. AFTER BEING TUTORING AT *MATH PLUS ACADEMY* FOR ABOUT 2-3 YEARS I AM GREAT AT MATH AND HONESTLY LOVE IT. PLUS, I WORK THERE NOW AND GET TO HELP OTHERS WITH THEIR MATH. ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS WHEN I WAS PREPARING FOR THE ACT LAST YEAR AND PARENTS MADE SURE TO PUT ME IN MULTIPLE ACT TUTOR SESSIONS FOR ME TO HAVE THE BEST CHANCES OF SCORING WELL ON THE ACT.

INTERACTIONS WITH FAMILIES/CAREGIVERS:

ALTHOUGH I PERSONALLY HAVE NOT HAD ANY EXPERIENCE WITH OTHER FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS, I WAS ABLE TO GET SOME INSIGHT FROM MY MENTOR THAT, AS A SCHOOL, WHEN DEALING WITH FAMILIES OR CAREGIVERS IN NEED OF SUPPORT AND HELP THE SCHOOL PROVIDES THEM WITH MONEY FOR FOOD AND CHRISTMAS PRESENTS EVERY YEAR THROUGH *WELCOME WAREHOUSE*.

ADVANTAGES & IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT:

EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN A CHILD'S LIFE/SCHOOL EDUCATION WILL...

- CAUSE THEM TO PERFORM WELL IN THEIR ACADEMICS
- GIVE THEM MOTIVATION TO WORK HARDER AND HARDER
- KEEP THEM FOCUSED ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT
- INSTILL GOOD VALUES IN THEIR APPROACH ON SCHOOL

HOW DOES FAMILY INVOLVEMENT HELP IN LEARNER DEVELOPMENT? “WHEN PARENTS ARE ENGAGED IN THEIR CHILDREN’S SCHOOL LIVES, STUDENTS HAVE THE HOME SUPPORT AND KNOWLEDGE THEY NEED TO NOT ONLY FINISH THEIR ASSIGNMENTS, BUT ALSO DEVELOP A LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING” (*HOW PARENT INVOLVEMENT LEADS TO STUDENT SUCCESS, WATERFORD.ORG*).

REFLECTION

OVERALL, I BELIEVE THAT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAYS A VERY SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN A CHILD’S LIFE AS IT RELATES TO CHILDREN AND THEIR PERFORMANCE IN THE CLASSROOM SETTING. THROUGH OBSERVATIONS MADE DURING MY EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERNSHIP AND MY GENERAL EXPERIENCE, I BELIEVE THAT WITH THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF SUPPORT FROM FAMILY MEMBERS OR CAREGIVERS, EVERY CHILD CAN HAVE A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE AND BE SUCCESSFUL.

“REAL WAYS” SCHOOLS ENGAGES WITH FAMILY MEMBERS

EXAMPLE OF FAMILY/CAREGIVERS CAN BE INVOLVED IN A CHILD’S EDUCATION:

- WORK WITH CHILD ON HOMEWORK &/OR PROJECTS
- HELP CHILD STUDY FOR TESTS &/OR QUIZZES
- INVEST IN PROVIDING CHILD WITH A TUTOR FOR WHATEVER SUBJECT THE CHILD MAY BE STRUGGLING EITHER
- KEEP IN CONTACT/UPDATED WITH CHILD’S TEACHER

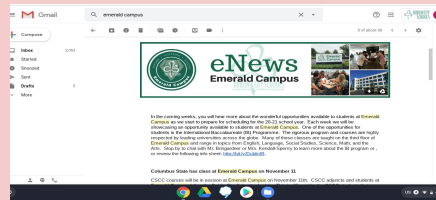


COMMUNICATION APP

CLASSTAGG APP: WITH THE *CLASSTAG APP*, TEACHERS ARE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE TO THEIR STUDENT'S PARENTS EITHER DIRECTLY OR IN A HUGE GROUP MESSAGE, SIMPLY AND EASILY.

EMAIL

BELOW IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW SCHOOLS, SUCH AS EMERALD CAMPUS (OFF CAMPUS FOR SCIOTO, COFFMAN, AND JEROME STUDENTS), USE COMMUNICATION SOURCES, LIKE EMAIL, TO KEEP STUDENTS AND PARENTS UPDATED ON WHAT IS GOING ON.



REFERENCES

HOW IT WORKS. (N.D.). RETRIEVED FROM

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HOW PARENT INVOLVEMENT LEADS TO STUDENT SUCCESS. (2018, NOVEMBER 01).

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[HTTPS://WWW.WATERFORD.ORG/EDUCATION/HOW-PARENT-INVOLVEMENT-LEADS-TO-STUDENT-SUCCESS/](https://www.waterford.org/education/how-parent-involvement-leads-to-student-success/)