Mar 5th, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

“Rules of Engagement”; 5 GOLDEN Rules for Increasing and Maintaining Family Engagement

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“Rules of Engagement”
5 GOLDEN Rules for
Increasing and Maintaining Family Engagement
YOUR Presenters

Norton Park Elementary School
Smyrna, Georgia

Michelle Curry
Principal

Tamara Morgan
Academic Coach

Tania Watson
Academic Coach
ABOUT US

VISION
Achievement through collaboration for lifelong success

MISSION
One Team: Collaboration through The Park, Parents, and Partnerships

COMMITMENTS
We will collaborate to provide meaningful and quality instruction to facilitate the success of all students.

We commit to provide our students with real world opportunities and experiences.

We commit to collaborate with parents in order to support student achievement.
In today’s session we will learn and share ways to:

- **Build** meaningful relationships with families
- **Connect** to create and facilitate effective communication
- **Engage** families through innovative and thoughtful activities
- **Sustain** parental support by giving them opportunity for input
- **Extend** partnerships into the community to increase family engagement
What is engagement?

❖ Effective family engagement requires the school to develop a relationship-building process focused on listening.

❖ Parent engagement is the school and parents working together to support and improve the learning and development of children.

❖ Family involvement and engagement are not mutually exclusive; most schools pursue both.

❖ Listening to parents is an integral piece in the process. Communication must be a 2-way street.
Roadmap to student success.

1 BUILD

2 CONNECT

3 ENGAGE

4 SUSTAIN

5 EXTEND
Icebreaker: 5 “KEY Rules”

❖ You have 5 minutes to find the keys hidden around the room.

❖ When you find a key come up and open one of the 5 boxes.

❖ The box that you open will have an object for you to keep that connects to the 5 Rules of Engagement.

GOOD LUCK!!
What does it look like to build meaningful relationships with families?
Don’t build **links**. Build **RELATIONSHIPS**.

-Rand Fishkin
Build meaningful relationships with families
What are some ways we build relationships?

First “key” rule: BUILD Relationships

❖ School Theme
❖ Community Ride A Long
❖ Tea w/Curry
❖ Principal’s breakfast
Build Relationships from the Start

Beginning of Year - We begin our year with bonding and building relationships as a team. This includes dressing in unity, matching shirts, staff pictures and activities to build our team.

School Theme - Last year's theme was superheroes and this year's theme is “Ain’t No Stopping Us Now” with a 70's flare.
NPK 2018-2019 70's Theme
"Ain't No Stopping Us Now"
Build Relationships

Bond with staff and families;

❖ Kindergarten playdate at the beginning of the year helps to build the foundation. Parents bring the upcoming K students and tour the school.

❖ Community Ride A Long - We take the staff on a bus ride into our attendance community to meet and greet families and students. We provide backpacks full of supplies.
Community Ride A-long
Building Relationships through Conversations

Tea w/Curry - Our principal and parents have tea, cookies and conversations! This happens every nine weeks as an informal sit down with the parents. We check the pulse of the parents through conversations about the upcoming school year.
Principals breakfast - We held a breakfast in the late fall for students receiving the principal's award. The breakfast was sponsored by our partner Chick-fil-a.
Relationship Building

Norton Park OPEN HOUSE
August 30th 6:00pm - 7:30pm
This is a night for The Park, Parents. and Partners to come together as a community!
We hope to see you there!

Popsicles with the Principal
A Playground Fun too!
JULY 24, 2018 | 6:00 - 6:30 PM | PATE'S PLAYGROUND
25 kids will leave with a FREE book!
DRAWING @ 6:15PM

MEET & GREET
July 30th
Time Grade Levels
9am - 10am Kindergarten and 5th Grade
4pm - 5pm First and Second Grade
5pm - 6pm Third and Fourth Grade

Chat 'n Chew with Curry

Talk soon
What does it mean to connect with families?
“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child’s success is the positive involvement of PARENTS.”

-Jane D. Hull
Connect to create and facilitate effective communication
What are some ways we connect with our parents?

Second “key” rule: CONNECT

❖ School mission (importance of parent engagement)
❖ Friendly welcoming environment
❖ Communication
❖ Marquee messages, flyers, Remind app
❖ Automatic call outs, text, e-mails
❖ Parent Facilitator
❖ Bilingual Interpreters
❖ Social Media
Marquee messages—We use the marquee to publicize school events, dates and times to the families and community.
Flyers are created with thought and planned intentionally to catch the attention and inform parents.
The Remind app is set up to be used as an information blast to parents. Translation of messages is available and goes directly to the staff, families and students in the form of a text messaging. Automatic call outs, text messages, and e-mails are sent out weekly to share important information. The calls are pre-recorded by the parent facilitator or secretary. Parents can choose to opt in and receive a call, text and or e-mail message with the same information.
Engage
What does it mean to engage parents and the community?
“Successful schools not only *embrace* but actively solicit the engagement of student families.”

Debbie Silver—*in Education Week Teacher*
Engage families through innovative and thoughtful activities
What are some ways we engage families?

Third “key” rule: ENGAGE

❖ Parent Resources
❖ Donuts for Dad, Muffins with Mom
❖ Mother/Son and Daddy/Daughter Dance
❖ Parent English classes weekly
❖ Kroger Math Night
❖ Literacy Night
❖ Volunteer opportunities
❖ Support learning at home
Donuts with Dad and Muffins with Mom are activities that allow us to draw parents and other family members into the building!
Activities such as the Mother/Son and the Father/Daughter dances create opportunities for students and parents to engage and interact in the school environment.
Atlanta Opera Dinner Theater with Families
The school partners with Kroger to engage in a math night. Parents and students work and complete activities throughout the store to solve standards-based questions.
Family Literacy Night
Sustain
What does it mean to sustain parental support?
Find your voice and inspire others to find theirs.

Stephen Covey – Brainy Quotes
What are some ways we create opportunities for parent input and voice?

Fourth “key” rule: SUSTAIN

- Input/Voice (school climate surveys)
- Bring your Parent to School Day
- School Council/PTA
- Classroom visits
- Cocoa with Curry
- Flexible Times to engage
- Incentives (child care, refreshments)
- Multicultural events
- Staff that reflect the school community
Sustain parental support by giving them opportunity for input
Sustain strong relationships by giving your parents a voice.

Cocoa with Curry—Principal and parents have conversations and engage in a Q&A session that gives parents a chance to discuss and have input in their student's success.

Join us for some Cocoa with Mrs. Curry on Thursday, February 28th at 6 pm. This will be an opportunity to find out about the latest news and upcoming events at Norton Park and discuss our school, students and the best ways to support their success.
Give parents input and a voice!
Extend
What are some ways we extend to create partnerships with the community?
Alone we can do so LITTLE;
Together we can do so MUCH.

-Helen Keller
What are some ways we extend partnerships in the community?

Fifth “key” rule: EXTEND

❖ Community
❖ Beginning of the year; B98.5 Radio Reading, Uncle Maddios, ACFB
❖ Chick fil A Spirit Nights, Gas South- Dental Screening, School Beautification
❖ Shop with a Cop
Partnerships in the community

Maddios Pizza Joint

Gas South

Bellows College

Maddio's Pizza Joint

Gas South
Unity is strength...when there is collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.

-Mattie Stepanek-brainy quote
ENGAGEMENT; YOU HOLD "THE KEY"

BUILD ○ CONNECT ○ ENGAGE ○ SUSTAIN ○ EXTEND

5 Golden Rules

1. Connect
   Communication

2. Build
   Relationships

3. Engage
   Activities

4. Sustain
   Input...Voice

5. Extend
   Community
THANK YOU!

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