



The following are resources grouped 1) by principles of the MiFamily Engagement Framework and 2) by topic area. Select the principle or topic area and you can follow the bookmark to the resource section.

I. MiFamily Engagement: Michigan Family Engagement Framework

[1. Relationships are the cornerstones of family engagement.](#)

- Adopt an evidence-based home visiting program
- Build bridges/cultural proficiency activities
- Plan positive communications with all families

[2. Families are engaged and supported partners in their child's education.](#)

- Include families on planning teams
- Use surveys throughout the year to capture family input and report out results
- Link families to community resources

[3. Family engagement efforts are purposeful, intentional, and clearly identify learner outcomes.](#)

- Lead academic parent-teacher teams
- Design family events with family input and use the events to teach families skills they can reinforce at home
- Conduct student-led conferences

[4. Family engagement efforts are tailored to address all families so all learners are successful.](#)

- Seek barriers and remove them
- Provide interpreters and offer communications in multiple languages
- Provide training to staff
- Offer childcare at events

5. Positive learning environments contribute to family engagement and learning.

- Involve families when creating security and visiting policies
- Ensure school personnel are visible in halls, at entries, at the buses, and at pickup
- Establish a community schools approach

II. General Resources

Assessments, Surveys, and Checklists for Evaluating Family Engagement

Self-assessments, surveys, and checklists for self-evaluation of strengths and areas of need in enhancing family engagement

Models and Frameworks of Family Engagement

Best practice frameworks and models for configuring family engagement activities

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and Family Engagement

MTSS and PBIS family engagement supports, resources, and information to support educators.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Family Engagement

SEL family engagement supports, resources, and information for educators

Training, Education, and Other Resources in Family Engagement

Information on training, education, leading family engagement state and national resources, toolkits, and more.



MiFamily Engagement Framework Principles & Resources

The MiFamily Engagement framework principles are outlined below. Each of the actions under the principles are provided and possible resources for further learning or implementation.

1. Relationships are the cornerstones of family engagement

Actions	Resources
Adopt an evidence-based home visiting program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MiFamily Engagement and Home Visits Brief <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panorama Home Visits Toolbox. Resources and tools need to initiate a home visiting program.. • (or rethink) a home visit program and authentically connect with caregivers • St. Paul Federation of Teachers Parent/Teacher Home Visiting Project Evaluation Home Visiting Program: the St. Paul Federation of Teachers partnered with a Twin Cities evaluation firm, Goff Pejsa & Associates, to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of their Parent/Teacher Home Visiting program. Provides feedback on best practices in home visits. • Research: US Department of Education, Institute of Educational Sciences (IES), Regional Educational Laboratory Program (REL), What is the impact of home visitation in the early grades? List of resources supporting home visits.
Build bridges/cultural proficiency activities	<p>MiFamily Engagement Equity and Family Engagement Brief</p> <p>MiFamily Engagement-Engaging Multilingual Families Brief</p> <p>Pacer Center: Working Effectively with Families from Diverse Cultures (download)</p> <p>US Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Strategies for Equitable Family Engagement, State Support Network</p>
Plan positive communications with all families	<p>MiFamily Engagement-Communication and Messaging Tools Brief</p>

Flamboyant Foundation: [Communicating with Families around Academics](#). Regularly communicating with families about academics ensures that there are no surprises regarding a student's performance. Families with up-to-date information can more effectively partner with you and support student achievement. Use this resource to help you communicate effectively with families around academics and social-emotional learning to build a partnership and support student learning inside and outside the classroom.

Flamboyant Foundation: [Communicating with Families in Different Contexts](#). Communication between families and educators is important to supporting student needs, building trust with families, and acting as true partners. You will have conversations about behavior, attendance, and academics as an educator. Building strong relationships with families via regular communications will make these conversations solutions-oriented and productive. Use this resource to help you communicate effectively with families on a variety of topics, including academic progress and behavioral and social milestones.

Flamboyant Foundation: [Family + Student Wellness Check-In](#). If families and students need extra support, check in and let them know that you are thinking of them, concerned about them, and available as a resource. Practicing this type of open, empathic communication builds trust and equips you with the knowledge you need to support your students. Use this guide to practice open, empathic communication and ensure you and your students' families have the knowledge, resources, and support needed for student success.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): [10X: Using Technology to Engage Families](#)

2. Families are engaged and supported partners in their child’s education.

Actions	Resources
Include families on planning teams	<p>MiFamily Engagement-Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT) Brief</p> <p>MiFamily Engagement-Engaging Families in Literacy Brief</p> <p>MiFamily Engagement-Career and College Readiness Brief</p> <p>Michigan Department of Education, Family Engagement for Literacy</p>
Use surveys throughout the year to capture family input and report out results	<p>Panorama Education, Family-School Relationships Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downloadable survey to help educators gather feedback and engage families in their school communities. Download the Family-School Relationships Survey (classroom, district, school)-Excel <p>Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTEN):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey School Environment (includes Family/School Partner Checklist): The purpose of the inventory is to quickly identify how family-friendly your school is, as well as how your school could improve. Each item has been selected because scientific studies have found it to be related to family/school partnerships. While no school has all the family-friendly supports listed, it is often possible to develop such supports when citizens like you think they are important.
Link families to community resources	<p>MiFamily Engagement-Access to Community Resources Brief</p> <p>Michigan State University (MSU) Extension. Includes information about after school programs</p> <p>Pennsylvania State University (PSU) Extension. Creating awareness and connecting families to needed resources in the community such as affordable housing, intervention services, mental health care, medical care, and more. Talk with the United Way in your area about services provided locally.</p> <p>Hanover Research: Best Practices for Engaging Families and the Community (download)</p>

3. Family engagement efforts are purposeful, intentional, and clearly identify learner outcomes.

Actions	Resources
Lead academic parent-teacher teams	<p>Flamboyant Foundation: Academic Partnering-Creating Meaningful Experiences with Families. Whether it's during a parent-teacher conference, an Academic Parent-Teacher Team meeting, a student-led conference, or something else, partnering with families is an opportunity for you to share power, build or sustain trusting relationships, and ultimately support student success. Use this resource to prepare for successful engagements with your students' families.</p> <p>Flamboyant Foundation: Preparing for Effective Conference with Families. Conferences should be a two-way discussion between parents and teachers. When preparing for conferences with families, use this resource to help you prepare for positive conferences with families.</p> <p>Pacer Center: Use Questions to Find Answers</p>
Design family events with family input and use the events to teach families skills they can reinforce at home	<p>Project Appleseed (National Campaign for Public School Improvement): Family Engagement Activities for Schools. Includes Parental Involvement Toolbox and ideas and strategies for involving families.</p>
Conduct student-led conferences	<p>Edutopia: Student Led-Building Student Leadership Skills Through Participation in Parent-Teacher Conferences</p> <p>EL: The Who, What, and Why of Student Led Conferences. Includes guidance document, assessments, and more. Free account required to access free resources.</p> <p>Teaching Channel: A Step-by-Step Plan for Elementary Level Student-Led Conferences</p> <p>Teachers Pay Teachers (TPT): Free, simple downloadable and customizable checklist</p>

4. Family engagement efforts are tailored to address all families so all learners are successful.

Actions	Resources
Seek barriers and remove them	<p>MiFamily Engagement-Reaching Families Experiencing Homelessness Brief</p> <p>MiFamily Engagement-Communication and Messaging Tools Brief</p> <p>MiFamily Engagement-Career and College Readiness Brief</p> <p>Flamboyant Foundation: Strategies to Engage Unreached Families. Use this tool to engage families not reached through previous efforts.</p>
Provide interpreters and offer communications in multiple languages	<p>MiFamily Engagement Equity and Family Engagement Brief</p>
Provide training to staff	<p>Flamboyant Foundation Family Engagement Assessment Tool. Free tool and family engagement resources and library; free assessment for evaluating level of family engagement in assessing areas of strength and growth and provides resources to get started.</p> <p>National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE). Family Engagement Pre-Service Initiative. Offers sign-up to receive updates on the initiative and information on initiatives including publications; symposiums and conferences; framework information; core competencies; survey of higher-level education on educator preparation; State of the States on family, school, and community engagement; and more. Extensive training and information available.</p> <p>National PTA Initiative, The Center for Family Engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New National PTA Learning Series. Ongoing free training series: 10 Minutes to PTA the Transformative Way includes reflective questions at the end of each webinar along with related resources. View the full playlist at the provided link. • E-Learning Course models and advocates for more equitable and effective family engagement. The course is 25-minutes and describes the “Four I’s” of transformative family engagement: inclusive, individualized, integrated, and impactful. Free account required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinars: 6 free webinars are available related to transforming family-school partnerships. <p>Harvard University: Introduction to Family Engagement in Education: on-line, fee-based, 6-week, 2-4 hours per week, course with Karen L. Mapp, PhD. Topics covered: the relationship between family engagement and improved school/student outcomes from birth through high school; the additional benefits family engagement brings to parents, educators, and communities; what the research shows about the importance of engaging families; and more.</p> <p>US Department of Education, in partnership with Carnegie Corporation and the Overdeck Family Foundation (2023), webinar series on Family Engagement to Support Student Success (each video is approximately 1.5 hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Engagement to Support Student Success (1.5 hours) • How Family Engagement Can Improve Student Engagement and Attendance • How Family Engagement Strategies Can Support Immigrant and Multilingual Families • How Family Engagement Can Support Student Mental Health and Well-Being • How Family Engagement Supports Kindergarten Readiness and Early School Success • How Family Engagement Supports College and Career Pathway Success
Offer childcare at events	<p>Article: Identifying Barriers: Creating Solutions to Improve Family Engagement</p> <p>Citation: Baker, T. L., Wise, J., Kelley, G., & Skiba, R. J. (2016). Identifying barriers: Creating solutions to improve family engagement. <i>The School Community Journal, 26</i>(2), 161–184.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents discuss childcare for siblings as being a barrier to attending in-person conferences. Providing childcare to accommodate the needs of some parents may allow them to attend conferences. • Consider alternatives to in-person if necessary and consider virtual or other times when the family can be onsite. • Set up activities for siblings in a designated area of the classroom as an option to allow the family to bring their child.

5. Positive learning environments contribute to family engagement and learning.

Actions	Resources
<p>Involve families when creating security and visiting policies</p>	<p>National School Safety and Security Services: in addition to security the school, recommend educating students within the school and parents about access control strategies and importance of students following rules. Resources for school communication and safety management.</p> <p>National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments: Family-School Community Partnerships. Resources on community schools, family engagement, transitioning to school, family involvement in education, and profile examples of community schools</p> <p>Okay2Say (Michigan): OK2SAY is a student safety program which allows students to confidentially report tips on potential harm, criminal activities, and bullying directed at students, school employees, and schools. It uses a comprehensive communication system to facilitate tip sharing among students, parents, school personnel, community mental health service programs.</p> <p>US Department of Education, Guiding Principles for Creating Safe, Inclusive, Supportive, and Fair School Climates (2023). All students deserve learning environments that are safe, inclusive, supportive, and fair. Schools can both keep their school community—including students and school staff—safe while ensuring every student is included, supported, and treated fairly. Consistently applied, evidence-based approaches to discipline are important tools for creating learning environments that are foundational to the success of all students.</p> <p>Provides guidance through established principles: Guiding Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding Principle 1: Foster a sense of belonging through a positive, safe, welcoming, and inclusive school environment. • Guiding Principle 2: Support the social, emotional, physical, and mental health needs of all students through evidence-based strategies. • Guiding Principle 3: Adequately support high-quality teaching and learning by increasing educator capacity • Guiding Principle 4: Recruit and retain a diverse educator workforce • Guiding Principle 5: Ensure the fair administration of student discipline policies in ways that treat students with dignity and respect (including through systemwide policy and staff development and monitoring strategies)

<p>Ensure school personnel are visible in halls, at entries, at the buses, and at pickup</p>	<p>National School Safety and Security Services: should have a visitor sign-in and sign out. Staff should be trained to be visible and greet visitors and challenge strangers</p> <p>Education Week: 5 Ways Principals can Establish a Strong School Climate.</p>
<p>Establish a community schools approach</p>	<p>National Education Association (NEA): Meeting the Needs of Students with Community Schools. Discusses that Community Schools are public schools that provide services and support that fit each neighborhood’s needs, created and run by the people who know our children best—all working together., purpose, how schools focus on what’s needed by students and families in the community (e.g. free meals, health care, tutoring, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: What is a Community School • Video: Streetlights and Sidewalks • Provides examples of how schools have made changes to accommodate student need <p>US Department of Education (Ed.org). Community Schools: Fostering Innovation and Transformation. Looks at the evidence-based success of community schools, looks closer at community schools, and funding opportunities.</p>



General Resources

The following are resources grouped by topic area. Select the topic area and you can follow the bookmark to the resource.

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
Assessments, Surveys, Checklists, and Resources				
	Flamboyant Foundation	<p>Best practice family engagement resources and library; free assessment for evaluating level of family engagement in assessing areas of strength and growth and provides resources to get started</p> <p>Free online Flamboyant Foundation Family Engagement Assessment Tool</p> <p>Resource Library: free downloads of easy-to-read and use resources: Communicating with Families Around Academics; Communicating with Families in Different Contexts; Academic Partnering: Creating Meaningful Experiences with Families; The Five Roles in Action; Preparing for Effective Conferences with Families; Feedback Reflection Tool; Ongoing Communication Reflection Tool; Family Engagement Matters; Family & Student Wellness Check-In; Challenging Assumptions Reflection Tool; Strategies to Engage Unreached Families</p>	P	Webpage
	Global Family Research Project	Focuses on home-school collaboration and relationships and supports family involvement across grade levels.	P	Webpage

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	Panorama Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family-School Engagement Toolkit • Family-School Relationships Survey: measure parent attitudes and build family capacity in school community • Social-Emotional Learning Survey: topics and questions for students and adults • Student Survey: students in class, school, district 	P	Webpage
Models and Frameworks of Family Engagement (research-based)				
	Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships	Based on existing research and best practices, the Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships (Version 2) is designed to support the development of family engagement strategies, policies, and programs. The Framework should be seen as a compass, laying out the goals and conditions necessary to chart a path toward effective family engagement efforts that are linked to student achievement and school improvement.	P	Webpage
	National Association of Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE): Reframing Family, School, and Community Engagement-A communications toolkit (by The FrameWorks Institute and NAFSCE)	A communications toolkit. The resources in this toolkit are designed to collectively build the understanding and support we need to change the narrative around family, school, and community engagement.	P	Webpage
	Michigan Department of Education, MiFamily: Michigan’s Family Engagement Framework	<p>Provides guidance on best practices for engaging families in education. Self-evaluation on levels of engagement and practices associated with levels.</p> <p>Two-page briefs on educational and special education topics written for families; online and downloadable</p>	P	Webpage

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Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)				
	Association for Positive Behavior Supports (APBS), Presentation by Tim Fulenwider, Liz Gonzalez, Ana Luna, Kimberli Breen, 2018	Increasing Meaningful Culturally Responsive Family Engagement at School through Positive Behavior Support	P	PDF presentation
	Center on PBIS	Advancing Family-School Collaboration in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Through the Family-School-Community Alliance (FSCA) (Devon Minch, S. Andrew Garbacz, Mark D. Weist) Supports (PBIS): Concepts and Strategies for Families and Schools in Key Contexts	P	PDF/Download
	Michigan Multi-Tiered Systems of Support-Family Partnerships: Foundations and Principles	Free downloadable training materials which covers three modules related to the framework, research, and strategies for supporting and improving family partnerships	P	Website
	Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center (at Ohio State University)	Video : Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Family Engagement (NAFSCE, 2021) 1:32	P	Video
	Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR)	National parent training center provides information and resources to support parents of children with disabilities.	F, P	Website Multiple resources to download and view
Social Emotional Learning				
	Collaborative for Academic Social Emotional Learning (CASEL)	Recognized source for knowledge about high-quality, evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL). CASEL supports educators and policy leaders and enhances the experiences and outcomes for all PreK-12 students	P	Website

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	Michigan Department of Education, Social Emotional Learning (SEL)	Overview of MDE's support of SEL, the framework for SEL, an SEL map, and resources for SEL	F, P	Webpage
Training, Education, and Other Resources in Family Engagement				
	AIR-Advancing Evidence Improving Lives	<p>The Landscape of Family Engagement in Michigan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2020, the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE's) Office of Great Start received federal funds for the Preschool Development Grant (PDG) by the Administration for Children & Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. MDE contracted with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to conduct a two-phase family engagement study as part of an overall evaluation of the PDG efforts. <p>Family Engagement: Strengthening Family Involvement to Improve Outcomes for Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page Video 	P	PDF/Download
	Federal Plain Language Guidelines	<p>Plain Language</p> <p><i>Website contains current information on writing in plain language</i></p>	F	PDF/Download
	High Leverage Practices in Special Education	Council for Exceptional Children and CEEDAR Center, 2017	P	PDF/Download
	Michigan Alliance for Families, Family Involvement	Provides information on levels of parent involvement, parent advocacy, why it is important to be involved, how to get involved, what the law says about family involvement, and more.	F	Webpage

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Indicators	<p>State Performance Plan (SPP) Indicator 8, Facilitated Parent Involvement is one of the indicators developed by the U.S. Department of Education to help each state measure and report on their efforts to educate students receiving special education services. States report on indicators including plans for progress in each SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR). Measurement and public reporting of parents with a child receiving special education services and report facilitated parent involvement; parent surveys administered by Wayne State University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About Parent Survey from Wayne State University: Parent involvement in Michigan Schools, What is Meaningful Parent Involvement? 	P, F	Webpage
	National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement	<p>Membership organization dedicated to advancing family, school, and community engagement. Provide resources including webinars, toolkits, and other media for developing family engagement programs and enhancing existing programs</p>	P	Webpage
	National Center for Families Learning	<p>Equity in Family Engagement Toolkit. Based on a Parent University collaboration with Academy of Music Production Education and Development (AMPED), Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS), and the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL), stakeholders produced this Equity in Family Engagement Toolkit to support educators as they engage with families toward student learning and achievement.</p>	P	Webpage

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	National Center for Learning Disabilities, Lindsay Jones, CEO	What should educators keep in mind when engaging with families of students with intensive needs?	P	Video
	National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII)	Intensive Interventions: A Practitioners Guide for Communicating with Parents and Families	P	Webpage
	National PTA	Oldest and largest child advocacy association in America. Provides resources for families, educators, administrators, and community leaders with information and resources on advocacy, family engagement with schools, programs, and more. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming Family-School Partnerships (PTA National Standards Webinar Series)-Free 	F, P	Webpage
	Pacer Center	Educator toolkit for Family Engagement covering dimensions of family engagement which indicates implementation targeted at the classroom, building, or district level by resource. <p>Family engagement dimensions covered: Frameworks, Strategy, Communication, Relationship, Professional Development, Grab & Go, Resource Finder</p> <p>Building Effective Family School Partnerships-for Educators. Downloadable information.</p>	P	Webpage

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTEN)	<p>Educator toolkit for Family Engagement covering dimensions of family engagement which indicates implementation targeted at the classroom, building, or district level by resource.</p> <p>Family engagement dimensions covered: Frameworks, Strategy, Communication, Relationship, Professional Development, Grab & Go, Resource Finder</p> <p>Building Effective Family School Partnerships-for Educators. Downloadable information. Maintains Family Engagement Site and Hub with extensive information and training on site in the areas of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), national standards and research, and more.</p> <p>Free Family Engagement Training Modules with PowerPoints, videos, assessments/checklists, and downloadable activities to support learning.</p> <p>Beyond the Cookie Cutter with Multi-Tiered Strategic Approach to Family Engagement (Dr. Barbara Boone and Hadley Bachman) (2 Hours)</p> <p>Family Engagement vs. Family Involvement (PaTTEN) (20 minutes)</p>	P	Webpage
	US Department of Education	Secretary Cardona Video. Parent Partnership: Secretary Cardona and Friends Celebrate National Parent Involvement Day (11.16.23) (47m)	P	Video

Category	Resource	Organization/Agency/Source	Audience (F=Families, P=Professionals)	Type of Source
	US Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Strategies for Equitable Family Engagement , State Support Network	P	Webpage