Engaging English Learner Communities and Families

U.S. Department of Education
Agenda

• Guidance on Engagement of EL Families
• Research on Benefits of Family Engagement
• Examples from the Field
• Family Engagement Resources
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015

- Shifted focus from *Parental Involvement* to *Family Engagement*.
- Introduced new requirements in family engagement activities for schools receiving Title I and Title III funds.
- Introduced a requirement for meaningful communication between family members and school staff *in a language and format family members can understand*.

https://www.ed.gov/essa
Family and Community Engagement

Outreach to Parents as active participants in their child’s education

- Language and format of communication
- Informed on EL Status and continuation of services
- Student Achievement
- School wide programs

https://www.ed.gov/essa
Council of Great City School members:

- EL Family and Community Diversity
- Strategic Communication
- Funds of Knowledge
Voices From the Field

Californian's Together members

- Resources to build confidence
- Consistency and alignment
- Social emotional support
NEW: Ensuring Continuity Of Learning And Operations

The Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), knows how important it is that districts and schools have access to resources that recognize the unique learning profiles and needs of English learners in order to facilitate their education during unplanned school closures.

These resources are intended for school personnel and institutions of higher education to improve distance learning and the support of English learners and their families during school closures. All resources are free. Additional resources will be added, please check back periodically. To submit resources for consideration, please complete the Remote Learning Resources Submission Form below.

New NCELA Webpage

Resources to Share

Example of a Family Resource: Reading Tip Sheets for Parents

Reading Tip Sheets for Parents

Learn how families can support literacy at home, whether their children are babies, toddlers, preschoolers, or in elementary school. These tips are available in 13 languages.

Reading, and a love for reading, begins at home. Our one-page Reading Tip Sheets are available in thirteen languages and offer ideas for parents to help kids become successful readers.

Although we’ve divided these tips by age, many of them can be used with children at various ages and stages — we encourage you to choose the ones that work best for your child.

These tips were created with the generous support of the American Federation of Teachers.

Tips for parents of:

- Babies
- Toddlers
- Preschoolers
- Kindergartners
- First Graders
- Second Graders
- Third Graders

https://www.colorincolorado.org/reading-tip-sheets-parents
Additional OELA Family Engagement Resources

• English Learner Family Toolkit
  – Download from https://ncela.ed.gov/family-toolkit

• Family Engagement Webinar
  – Download from https://ncela.ed.gov/Webinars

• OELA Fact Sheet: Family-School Engagement of Families Who Are Speakers of Other Languages
  – Download from https://ncela.ed.gov/fact-sheets

• English Learner Toolkit
  – Download from https://ncela.ed.gov/english-learner-toolkit

• Newcomer Toolkit
  – Download from https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/newcomers-toolkit/index.html
Thank You!