

# Update on Family Engagement

March 12, 2019
Claudia Medina, FICE Coordinator

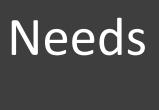
# Raising Alameda: Empowering Our District's Family Engagement Culture

Vision: To **support** families to understand how their schools are structured to serve students and how important their participation and leadership is for their community. To **equip** families with college knowledge and planning, and to **connect** them with resources to support their <u>parenting style</u>, <u>mindset</u>, and <u>actions</u> towards supporting their child and our collective district aspirations for student success.



## Logic Model for Family Engagement in AUSD: The WHY

#### (Based on LCAP Committee & Stakeholder Feedback)



- Families express a significant need to understand the academic expectations of their children and of their role in the school system
- Families want welcoming environments in their schools
- Families want improved home-to-school communication in their home language and/or in their preferred delivery methods
- Educators need training and support to build family-teacher relationships and partnerships
- LCAP mandates authentic and meaningful family engagement as well as shared decision making

# THINK



# Alameda USD Parent Involvement | Equity Framework

## A Tiered System

**Equity** is giving everyone what they need to be successful.

#### Tier 3: Advocacy & Equity Roundtables

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council
LGTBQ Roundtable
ALCANCE - Latino Achievement Roundtable
Jewish Education Roundtable
Asian Pacific Islanders Achievement Roundtable
Alameda Special Ed Family Support Group (ASPED)
African American Achievement Roundtable (forming)

# Tier 2: Families needing additional language or culturally sensitive supports

ELD school registration nights (all)
ELD Multilingual School Smarts (elementary)
ELD Family Math/Literacy/Mindset Nights (all)
Spanish Parent University Nights (middle school)
Family Engagement Lab: Virtual family partnership via text messaging (Title 1 elementary schools)

#### Tier 1: All Families

Schools Smarts (elementary families)
Parent University (middle school families)
Alameda Family Enrichment Series (Island-wide)
Great Schools Grade Level newsletters on academic and social-emotional development

# Game Plan: The How - Building Capacity and Leveraging Relationships

















Berkeley

Center for

**Partnerships** 







# Elementary Family Education Program - California PTA Partnership

Reaching across <u>all</u> parent groups and bringing them together in support of their common interest - to help children succeed!

# The School Smarts program builds our elementary families':

- Skills and knowledge cultivated in families to help them encourage and expect student academic achievement
- School-home connections principals report families are more confident and are getting more involved in school and community
- Leadership capacity graduates join PTAs, SSCs, LCAP committees, and our Equity Roundtables

Host sites alternate yearly

Multilingual programs every other year





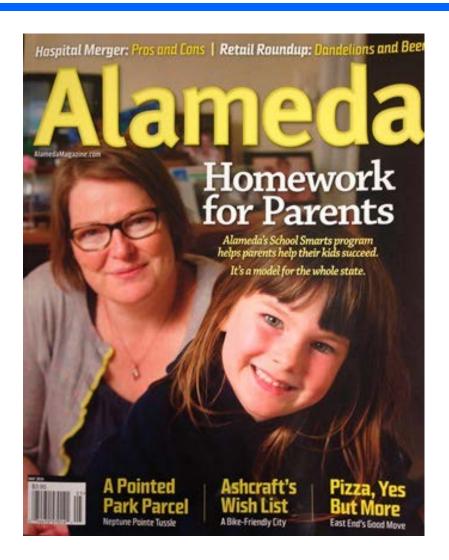
# School Smarts Moves the Needle: 2018 Post Evaluation Report

### 4 sites reporting | Average class size enrollment 30

Building Capacity for Families		
Parents feel "very well" or "fairly well" informed about	2017-2018	
How to support my child's learning at home	52% <b>86%</b>	
How to effectively communicate with my principal	76% 100%	
Opportunities to get involved at my child's school	69% 95%	
What parents can do to make changes at my school	35% 90%	

Ability to Demonstrate Leadership		
Parents are "definitely" or "very likely" to	2017-2018	
Contact my child's teacher to discuss an issue	67% 95%	
Attend a school site council meeting	14% 22%	
Participate in a parent committee	48% 63%	
Lead a parent committee or organization	21% 31%	

## **Testimonial**



After attending School Smarts I felt more in control of our schedule and more connected to my child. I was overwhelmed by our initial elementary school experience. As a working parent, I rarely knew what was going on at the school and did not think I had time to participate in PTA. Another parent encouraged me to sign up for School Smarts, just one night a week (including dinner!). I made that once-aweek commitment and it changed everything: I met many parents from our class and other grades, which helped me to form friendships I enjoy to this day; I gained insight which I wouldn't otherwise have about the curriculum at our school and class activities that my child was experiencing; I opened my mind about how much time I had to give, and actually increased joy in my home - my child was thrilled when I began to volunteer; and I joined PTA and attended PTA meetings once a month, which made a huge difference in my awareness of school activities and events.

-Carrie Sheret February 2019

# Alameda Unified is the State and Nationwide Pioneer in Multilingual Parent Engagement!





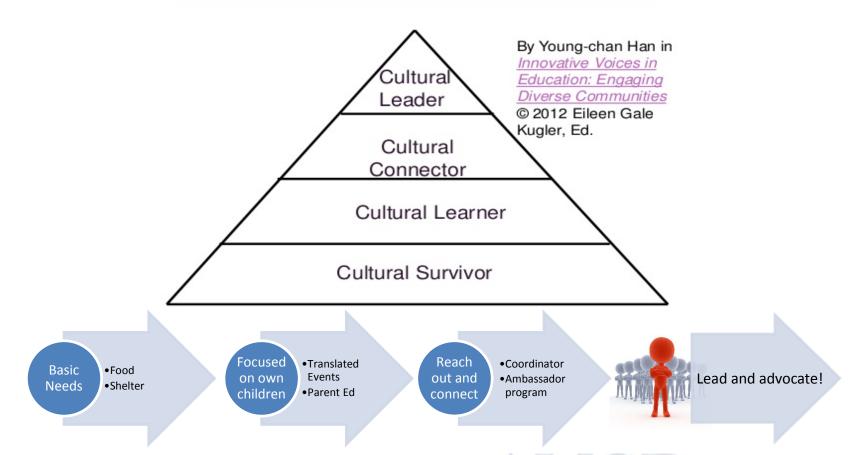






# **Immigrant Parent Involvement Evolution**

#### Stages of Immigrant Parent Involvement



# **Computer Literacy for Families/Guardians**

Partnership with the Alameda Library - Sessions planned for May

Multilingual Back to School Registration AUSD | August 2018 Serving over 300 families





- Introduction to the Browser
- Email Basics
- How to enroll your child in AUSD
- How to navigate your child's performance records



# **Virtual Family Involvement**

### Supports for our mobile families & hardest to reach communities.

#### **OUR CHALLENGE:**

Over 30% of our Title 1 elementary students are not meeting our ELA standards

#### Goals:

- To reach families who cannot attend school enrichment events with concrete curriculumaligned activities they can do with their children at home and in their preferred language.
- To establish a family involvement culture, in partnership with teachers, in the safety of their home and the discretion of their time.

Solution: Partner with FASTalk, a text message program to reach families directly on their cell phone!



#### SOLUTION: HOW FASTALK WORKS

FASTalk (Families and Schools Talk) is Family Engagement Lab's text message program that helps teachers empower all families to turn everyday moments into high-impact learning opportunities.



Parents receive simple activities by text in their preferred language to support at-home learning.



Activities are aligned with the **academic calendar and curriculum in preK-5**, and sent automatically.



Teachers receive tools to engage diverse families, such as two-way messaging with automated translation.



Teachers can view a weekly summary of the activities parents complete.

## **Empowering Our Hardest To Reach Families...**



#### Examples of FASTalk Alignment With the AUSD Literacy Blueprint

#### Kindergarten Sample Messages

Monday	Wednesday	Friday		Poll response acknowledgement
Kids need to know all of the sounds	Here's an easy alphabet game! Ask	Did you play our alphal	bet word game	Thank you! Praise your child's effort as
that letters make in order to read.	what food (or animal) starts with the	this week? Reply and I	will send more	they work through the alphabet. See if
Playing fun alphabet games can help	letter A? B? How far can you go? Play	ideas:		you can get to Z! Try other lists like
your child learn letter sounds.	in the car, bedtime, anywhere!	1: Yes	2: Not yet	places and names.
	Monday Kids need to know all of the sounds that letters make in order to read. Playing fun alphabet games can help your child learn letter sounds.	Kids need to know all of the sounds that letters make in order to read. Playing fun alphabet games can help  Here's an easy alphabet game! Ask what food (or animal) starts with the letter A? B? How far can you go? Play	Kids need to know all of the sounds that letters make in order to read. Playing fun alphabet games can help  Here's an easy alphabet game! Ask what food (or animal) starts with the letter A? B? How far can you go? Play  Did you play our alphabet this week? Reply and I ideas:	Kids need to know all of the sounds that letters make in order to read. Playing fun alphabet games can help  Here's an easy alphabet game! Ask what food (or animal) starts with the letter A? B? How far can you go? Play  Did you play our alphabet word game this week? Reply and I will send more ideas:

Curriculum alignment: Sets 1 & 2: consonant and vowel sounds

#### First Grade Sample Messages

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday	Poll response acknowledgement	
	Strong readers connect what they	Help your child connect new info to	Your feedback is important! Did you try	Thanks! Keep asking your child to make	
	already know with new information	past experiences or events. Ex: Have	this week's activity? Reply:	connections when reading new books	
	they learn. Stop and ask your child	you ever felt that way? Do you	1: Yes	by asking what they already know about	
	to make connections when reading.	remember when we went to the zoo?	2: Not yet	the topic.	
- 1					i .

Curriculum alignment: Making Meaning: Make text-to-self connections

Current Statistics for our Pilot sites at Ruby, Paden, and Haight (Title 1 Schools)

**Enrollment:** Kinder and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms

Who's using it? 70% of caregivers are actively using the FASTalk tool to communicate with their child's teacher Who is not? About 8.8% unsubscribed

**What languages?** Arabic, Cebuano, Chinese, Mongolian, Nepali, Pashto, Tagalog, Portuguese, Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese. *We are eliminating language barriers for parent-teacher communication!* 

**Text activities are aligned** with school activities supporting the following literacy skills at home:

Decoding, rhyming, using precise vocabulary, fluency, making comparisons and connections, SEL learning

#### **Testimonial:**

"I just wanted to share with you something that I'm so happy about.. [child's name's] reading has gotten so much stronger since the last time we spoke. Your suggested exercises are definitely helping." -AUSD parent

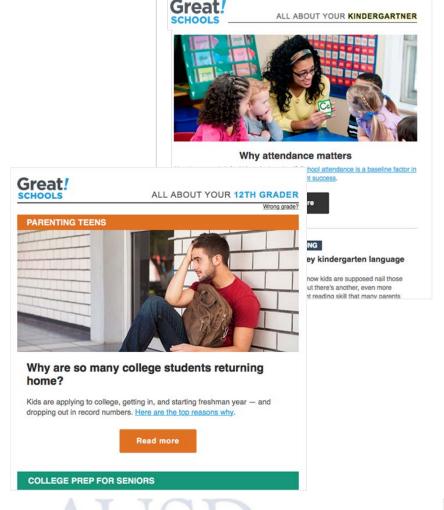


# **Grade Level Newsletters: Partnership with Great Schools.org**

#### Addressing age and grade level parent concerns

Free research and evidence-based, multimedia, weekly and monthly, actionable newsletters supporting all families.

- Elementary: Reading, writing, and math, learning stories, parenting cue cards
- Middle School: Social-emotional stories, ways to help at home, science of learning insights
- High School: Parenting teens, college prep, first to college



## Middle School Parent University | UCB Partnership

#### Increasing College Aspirations, College Knowledge, and College Planning



Keynote speakers in response to middle school needs: "Staying connected when anxiety takes over your teen" and "The Connected Child: Safety, Trust, and Respect in the Digital Age"

Nearly 200 families served annually



# **Families Love Parent University!**

"Meaningful conversations..., easy-to understand information..., timely..., knowledge of the specific requirements..., community spirit..., confidence to support children...."



# **Youth Development**

Necessary paths of trial and error to hardwire self-direction.

#### **Teen Brain**



#### **Adult Brain**

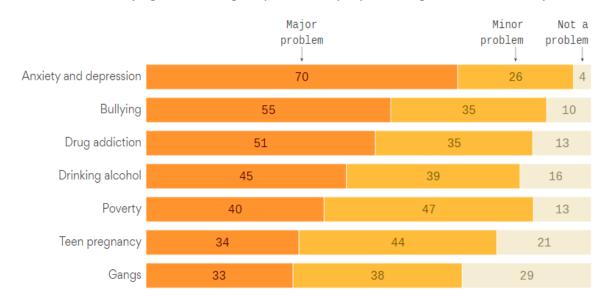


# **Parenting Issues of Our Time**

Pew Research Center, February 2019

# Stressed out: Anxiety a bigger concern for teens than drugs, poverty

Percent of teens saying the following is a problem for people their age in their community



Reproduced from a Pew Research Center report; Chart: Axios Visuals

Source: Pew Research Center: http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/02/20/most-u-s-teens-see-anxiety-and-depression-as-a-major-problem-among-their-peers/

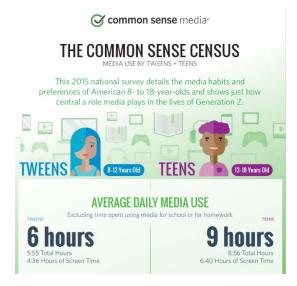
# **Sources of Stress and Anxiety**

Teens are growing up in a world of publicized mass shootings, dire climate change warnings, poor economic futures without a college degree and extreme political partisanship, and they are more stressed about those things than adults overall, according to the American Psychological Association.

Source: <a href="https://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/stress/2018/stress-gen-z.pdf">https://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/stress/2018/stress-gen-z.pdf</a>

### Trends to Follow

#### Social Media

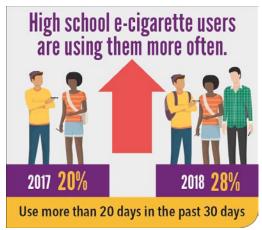


Impact of Social Media:

Our teens today are true digital natives who report being online "almost constantly," according to a 2018 study by Pew Research Center. (Psychologists have said their technology use has produced a national mental health crisis.)

Self Regulation is key.

#### **E-cigarettes**



In 2018, more than 1 in 4 high school students and 1 in 14 middle school students had used a tobacco product in the last 30 days, a total of 4.9 million youths.

E-cigarette use among high school students nearly doubled from 11.7% in 2017 to 20.8% in 2018. Overall, 1.5 million more youths used e-cigarette in 2018 than in 2017.

Talking about the negative effects to brain development is key.

#### Gaming



Gaming satisfies human needs: Autonomy, Belonging, Competence Some use to escape reality or their problems

According to <u>Statista</u>, the number of active gamers worldwide will rise to more than 2.7 billion people in 2021, up from 1.8 billion in 2014 and 2.3 billion in 2018.

This year, the World Health Organization (WHO) recognized "gaming disorder." In doing so, the WHO joined the American Psychiatric Association (APA), which had previously added "internet gaming disorder" as a phenomenon worthy of more research in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). Self-regulation is key.

# **Alameda Family Enrichment Series**

## Facilitating meaningful conversations







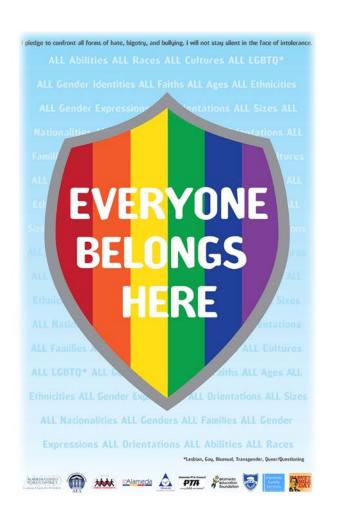
- Launched in partnership with PTAC
- Presentations in response to our Mental Health Wellness Survey and parental concerns
- Over 800 families served annually

# Why And How Do We Build Equity?

Historically Blacks and Latinos have been underserved in California schools.

Only 30% Latinos and Blacks complete A-G Course Requirements.

# Family & Student Achievement Support Groups





ALCANCE (Latino Roundtable)

LGTBQ Round Table

Jewish Education Round Table

Asian Pacific Islander Achievement Round Table

Alameda Special Education Family Support Group

African American Education Round Table (reconvening)

School Site Equity Round Tables

#### **ALCANCE:** AUSD's Latino Achievement Roundtable

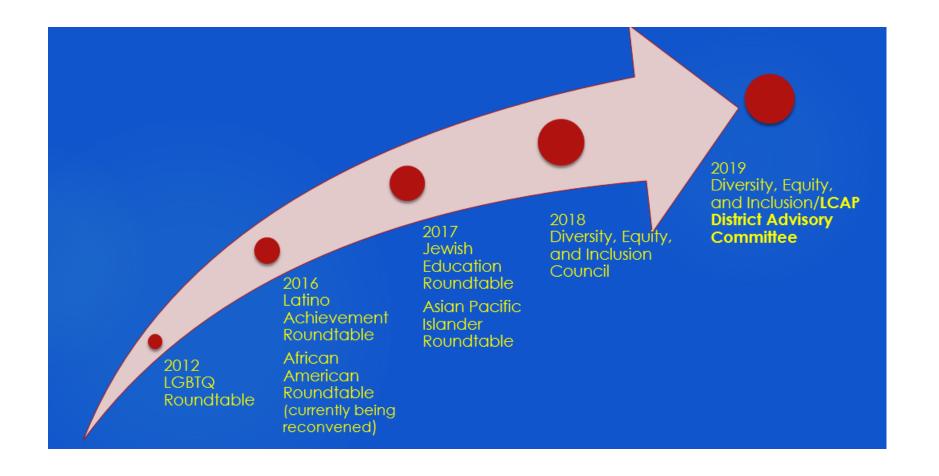


#### **ALCANCE's 2018-2019 Objectives:**

- Attendance Campaign: What's truly causing truancy?
- Special Education 101: Resource Development
- College Prep: Raising awareness on the pathways
- Spanish Language Community Conversations



# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion LCAP District Advisory Committee



# **FICE Community Relations**

#### **District:**

Title 1 Committee
MTSS Workgroup
Wellness Committee
DEI/ DAC LCAP
ALCANCE (Latino Achievement
Round Table)

#### City:

Alameda ACCYF
Member of Alameda's Social
Service & Human Relations
Board

#### **County/Regional:**

Alameda County Office of Education, Family Engagement PLN

National Equity Project Fellow/ Guest Trainer

#### State:

Californians Dedicated to Education (CDE) Foundation Project: California Dashboard Usability and Communication Campaigns (English/Spanish)

Latino Community Foundation Giving Circles

# **Theory of Action**

#### If we build capacity and improve relationships, here's what we can anticipate:



#### **Educators:**

Value families as partners

Feel supported and empowered by families

Share responsibility for student achievement

Minimize family complaints and improve communication



#### Families:

Feel respected, heard, and seen as partners

Are connected to their school community

Confidently navigate the school organization

Convey high expectations for their children

Support AUSD's initiatives for growth for all students



#### Students

Increase academic achievement (increased on-time arrival, improved attendance, increased homework completion rates, improved social-emotional climate)

Increase college and career readiness

Become confident young people who are academically strong and have a plan for the future!

# **Appreciation**

## Alameda children and families thank you for your leadership!



# Family Involvement and Community Engagement (FICE) Coordinator: BUDGET

LCFF Supplemental (Resource 0002)				
Classified Salary	\$57,951			
Benefits	\$15,976			
Operational Budget		\$49,965		
CAPTA School Smarts Curriculum (incl. Trainers)	\$12,850			
Site Coordinators	\$ 5,500			
Dinner	\$ 7,812			
Childcare	\$ 3,990			
		\$30,152		
UCB MS Parent University Curriculum	\$ 2,450			
Counselor Facilitators	\$ 1,400			
Keynote speakers	\$ 1,000			
Food & Childcare	\$ 600			
		\$ 5,450		
FASTalk Virtual Parent Engagement Program		\$ 3,184		
Ruby, Paden, Haight				
Alameda Family Enrichment Series (PTAC Partnership)		\$ 2,000		
Professional Development				
Othering & Belonging Conference 4/8-4/10		\$ 350		
SEL Toolbox District Certified Trainer 6/17-6/18		\$ 5,000		
Equity Roundtable Supports		\$ 3,000		
Estimated Total				