

<i>Course Description and Overview</i>
<p>Course Description: Through a variety of self-reflection activities and hands-on projects, participants will develop an empathetic framework for understanding the home-community-school connection. Together we will develop processes in which to navigate home, school, and community through ally building, effective communication, and resource sharing. We will enhance our practice of a “power with” approach to connect with others with empathy, to rethink our responsibilities as members of the school and community.</p> <p>Course Overview: Ten sessions, 2 hours each will include interactive group activities and discussion. Parent leaders will receive resources to share with families and schools; parent leaders will design an action plan to engage other families at their schools and in the community, and to mentor other emerging parent leaders.</p>
<i>Course Learning Objectives</i>
<p>At the end of the course, the students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop practical action plans for school and community engagement 2. Demonstrate effective communication skills 3. Participate in a shared learning community by discussing issues with other parents and stakeholders 4. Apply family-school partnering to site, situation, role
<i>General Course Organization</i>
<p>Department: Family and Consumer Studies</p>
<p>3 Credit hours</p>
<p>Instructors: Geri Mendoza, Alma Yanagui, Liz Player</p>
<p>Dates: Thursdays (June 18-August</p>
<p>Contact information: geri.mendoza@fcs.utah.edu</p>

LEARNING PLAN		
Creating Community		
Activities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a meal committee • Each session begins with summary of last session, reminders to participants (meals), review “homework”, and appoint a time keeper, facilitator, note-taker, review norms • Time for questions, final words 		
Activities:	Facilitator:	Materials:
<p>Session 1 - Keys to Success</p> <p>1. Ice Breaker/Introductions: What’s in a Name Each of us stands on the shoulders of everyone who came before. Family, ancestors each are part of a larger story. Working in partners, introduce self, talk about origins of name; introduce partner to the group.</p> <p>2. Housekeeping items (registration forms, review community items)</p> <p>3. Large Group Activity: Establish Group Norms</p> <p>4. Table Activity: Parent support (Mirror)</p> <p>5. Group Discussion: Why am I here? What are my strengths and skills? What needs to be done? (Review application form questions)</p> <p>6. Lecture/Discussion: Review Joyce Epstein’s research on family engagement</p> <p>7. Table activity: What are the Keys to Success? and use key cutouts, define the components of successful family engagement</p> <p>8. Homework assignment: “I have a dream.....” (star cut outs)</p> <p>9. Summarize the session</p>		<p>Materials: Name tents, chart paper, markers, post-its, star and key cut-outs,</p> <p>PowerPoint Slides: Epstein research</p> <p>Handouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirror “What did you parents do to help you be successful in school?” • Keys to Success (Epstein)
<p>Session 2 - Strong Connections</p>		<p>Materials: Name tents, chart paper, markers, post-</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: Share homework 2. Group Discussion: Family involvement/family engagement using the handout; chart the benefits (refer back to the keys) 3. Group Discussion: Excellent schools and community; use handout and talk about the elements that support “excellence”. 4. Table Activity: Participants draw a map of their “system” based on their knowledge and experience; Examples of systems will be shared 5. Group Activity: Comfort zone/danger zone. List the comforts and dangers; refer to their systems map; 6. Homework: Bring in a “challenge situation” for next session 7. Summarize the session 		<p>its</p> <p>PowerPoint Slides:</p> <p>Handouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Family Engagement • Everyone Wants Excellent Schools and Healthy and Successful Students
<p>Session 3 - School Structures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: Comic strip activity 2. Lecture/Discussion: Parts and Wholes, role of parents 3. Table Reading Activity: The Power of Parents, highlight the key points – “one thing that was important” and “one thing I am wondering about” 4. Table Activity: Using the systems map, place post-its where “issues” could be solved; list of challenges (homework) 5. Homework: Interview another parent 6. Summarize the session 		<p>Materials: Name tents, chart paper, markers, post-its and maps from previous session</p> <p>PowerPoint Slides: Car, living systems</p> <p>Handouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Power of Parents • Interview form with questions
<p>Session 4 - Communication Strategies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: Share success 2. Video: Empathy 3. Lecture: What is effective communication? Skilled Dialogue overview 4. Group Discussion/Small group work: Display who is easier to talk to and who isn’t on the system map 5. Table Activity: Problem Solving Scenario 6. Group Activity: Problem Solving Model using role play 7. Reading Review/Discussion: ABC’s of Customer Service, what gets in the way? 		<p>Materials: Name tents, chart paper, markers, post-its</p> <p>PowerPoint Slides: Communication is Like....., Skilled Dialogue overview</p> <p>Handouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Communication • Problem-solving Model

<p>8. Summarize the session</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC's of Customer Service
<p>Session 5 - Allies and Coalition Building in School and Community</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: Compass Points Activity 2. Discussion: How do you go about developing allies? Share some stories. Connect to previous classes about building community- what did you learn? Bring out the maps 3. Who are the allies? Example: Partners in the Park 4. Guest Speaker: 5. Homework: What school or community project would interest you? 6. Summarize the session 		<p>Materials: Name tents, chart paper, markers, post-its</p> <p>PowerPoint Slides: Compass Points protocol</p> <p>Handouts:</p>
<p>Session 6 Resources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: 2. Discussion: Revisit ally building; share homework. Bring resources into the school, how to do it? What is the parent role? Example (sex education). Represent how many schools? 3. Discussion: Resources, what comes to mind? Activity: Liz example – glasses scenario; Example: Bringing food pantry to school 4. Guest speaker: 5. Homework: Bring in school policies from home school 		
<p>Session 7 - Community Leaders</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreaker: 2. Discussion: Community concerns/assets; Bullying, types of defining it. Why does it happen? Where does it come from? Example: biting 2 year old, grandpa 3. Activity: Role playing. 4. Activity: What rules have wiggle room, which are set in stone? Share school policies 5. Discussion: Meetings with resource officer and parents. (Ferguson) define the culture regarding law enforcement 6. Discussion: culture. "Seatbelt story" 7. Table Activity: Wheel defining who we are, 		

<p>discuss the “isms”. Parents pass on isms or how can we pass on good things about the “isms”, tie it back to hopes and dreams from session 1. Language acquisition? Whose issue is it? 8. Small group work: Review policies, example: regarding bullying 9. Guest speaker: 10. Summarize the session</p>		
<p>Session 8 - Mental Health and Special Needs Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ice breaker activity: 2. Guest speaker(s): advocate, disability law expert, Valley Behavioral Health 3. Activity: Mapping the process. What else is needed? 4. Guest speaker: 5. Summarize the session 		
<p>Session 9 - Action Planning/Preparing your Toolkit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreak Activity: 2. Table Activity: Design an action plan what does it look like; work in a small groups. Generate topics; define ways of activating other parents . Define topics. 3. Reading: (Alma’s book pg. 63) Reaching All Families. Preparing the tool kit, how to reach plans 4. Summarize the session 		<p>Template for action planning</p> <p>Handout</p>
<p>Session 10 - Presentation of Action Plans</p>		<p>Certificates</p>