

# THINKING OUTSIDE THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT BOX

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EQUIPPING HEAD START CENTERS WITH RESOURCES TO SUSTAIN IMPROVEMENT  
GOALS FOR CREATING A FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN



## OUR COMPANY



## ABOUT US

- Founded by former educators in 2006
- Over 60 Years of Education Experience
- Minority & Woman Owned Business
- Creators of National Family Engagement Summit conference for educators



**Keynote Speaker 2016**  
Dr. Karen Mapp  
Senior Lecturer of Education,  
Harvard School of Education

<https://www.nfesummit.com>





Let's make learning comfortable



# WELCOME ACTIVITY

## Starburst Partners Tidbits

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1. Select one Starburst candy
2. Find a partner with the same color. Introduce yourself and share a Spring Break Tidbit
3. Form a group of 4 matching colors. Introduce each other and share a Family Tidbit
4. Form a group of 4 with NO matching colors. After introductions, share End -of - School- Year Tidbit

# GOALS FOR SESSION

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- 1. Discovering Where We Are
- 2. Understanding and Adapting to Parents' Needs
- 3. Data Driven Family Engagement Goals
- 4. Monitoring and Evaluating Progress
- 5. Strategic Planning that Involves Family Engagement Goals.

# WHAT ARE YOUR KEY QUESTIONS ABOUT CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING SUCCESSFUL PLANS FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN YOUR CENTER?

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Share with a partner

Share in small group and decide on 2 questions to present to the group





think  
outside  
the box

# NEW AREA OF ACCOUNTABILITY

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- We can no longer afford to plan activities for parents based on what we have done in the past.
- By understanding and appreciating the valuable role of data, we can design strategic family engagement plans and outreach goals aligned to the interests and needs of children and parents.



# WHAT PARENTS DON'T LIKE

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- Schools with little commitment to involve parents
- School staff who did not welcome, respect, or listen to them
- Limited communication in their native language
- Ineffective parent groups
- Lack of information about how to help their children
- Feeling less than equal on school site councils

# “BEYOND THE BAKE SALE”

KAREN MAPP & ANN HENDERSON

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## **Core Belief 1**

- All Parents have dreams for children and want the best for them.

## **Core Belief 2**

- All parents have the capacity to support their children’s learning.

## **Core Belief 3**

- The responsibility for building partnerships between home & school rests primarily with school leaders.





# STEP I: DISCOVERING WHERE WE ARE

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- 1. What are the needs of your families?
- 2. What are the greatest needs of your children?
- 3. Do you have a plan of action to make the gains to meet the standards?



# LINKED TO LEARNING

ALL PROGRAMS AT YOUR CENTER SHOULD HELP FAMILIES:

#1

- **Get a clear idea of what their children are learning and doing in class**

#2

- **Promote high standards for student work**

#3

- **Gain skills to help their children at home**

#4

- **Understand what good teaching looks like**

#5

- **Discuss how to improve student progress**



# WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED WITH FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

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Share in your group and make a list of common barriers.

Select the ONE barrier that keeping your school from having families engaged in student learning.

## STEP 2: UNDERSTANDING & ADAPTING TO PARENTS' NEEDS

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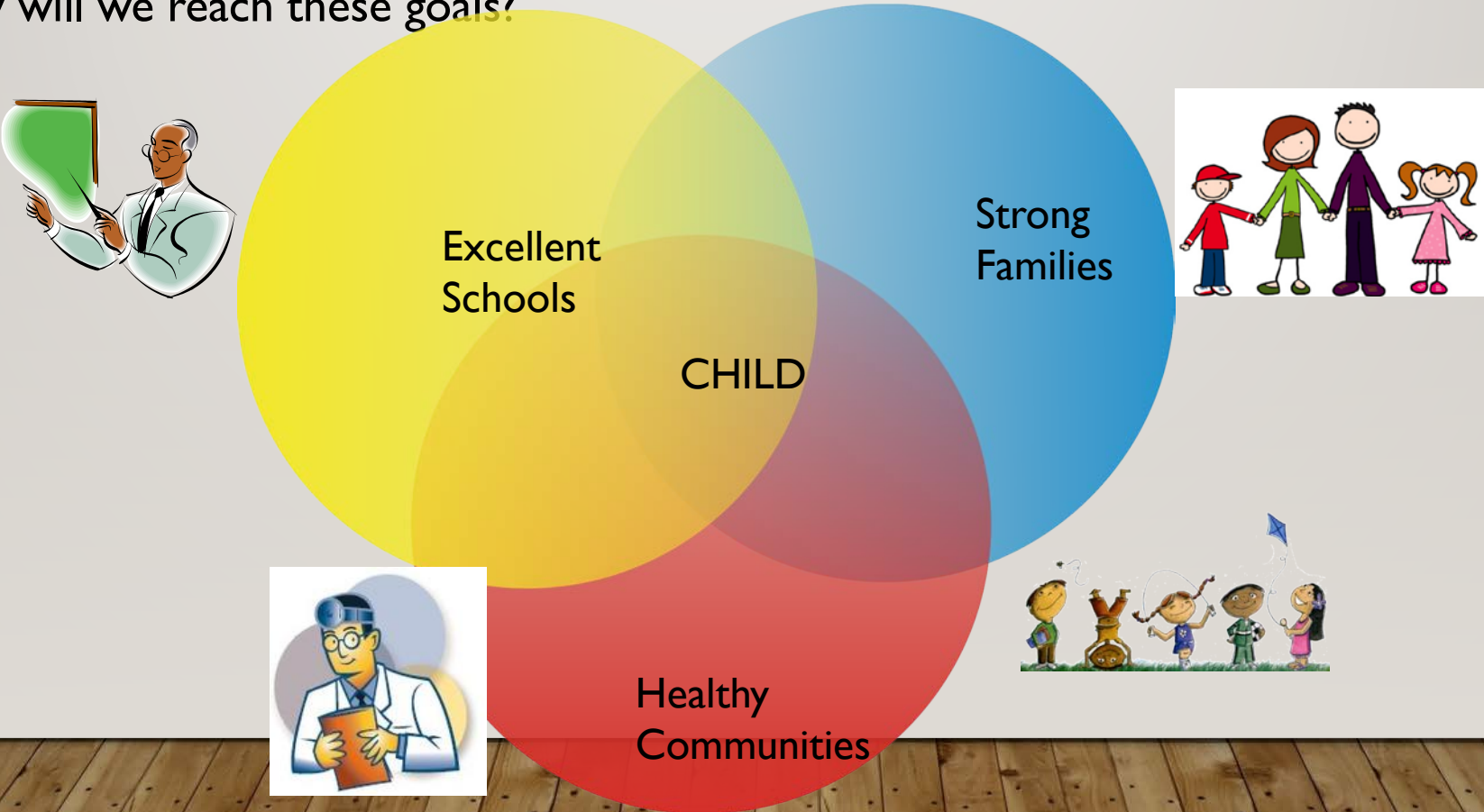




# EVERYONE WANTS EXCELLENT AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

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- How will we reach these goals?



# QUICK TIPS FOR CENTERS:

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- ✓ Help families understand what is happening in the classroom
- ✓ Put student work at front and center
- ✓ Communicate regularly with families about learning
- ✓ Put learning at the center of parent –teacher conferences and include children
- ✓ Collaborate with community organizations



# PARENT ACTION PLAN

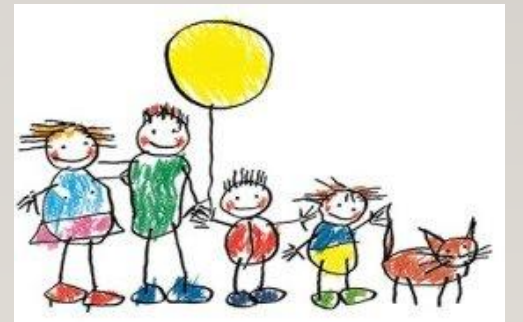
<p><b>I have a concern...</b></p>	<p><b>I would like my child to...</b></p>	<p><b>I will take these steps to help my child...</b></p>



# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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- Family Engagement is linked to a strong program-family relationship
- Both programs and families contribute resources and work together on behalf of children's well being
- Family engagement will increase, which ultimately benefits the development of children
- High levels of engagement often results from strong programs: *2-way communication, mutual respect, and attention to family needs*



## STEP 3: DATA DRIVEN FAMILY ENGAGEMENT GOALS

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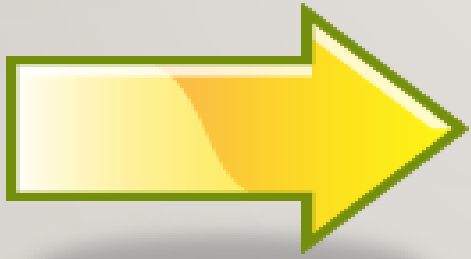
- School Improvement Goal
- Family Engagement Alignment Goal
- Evaluation/ Measure of Success



# USING DATA EFFECTIVELY

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- Data is a road map that will lead to...



- Target specific instructional areas of students' greatest needs.
- Plan structured activities focused on essential skill attainment.



## STEP 4: MONITORING & EVALUATING PROGRESS

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- School Improvement Goal
- Family Engagement Alignment Goal
- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
- Next Steps

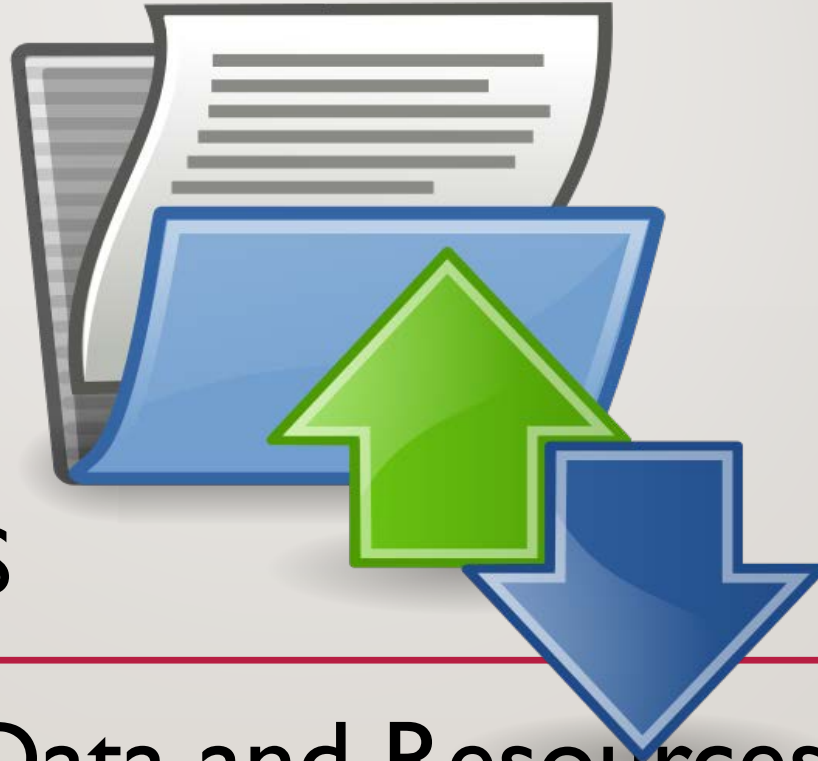




# PULLING THE IDEAS ALL TOGETHER

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Creating your Action Plan for Family School and  
Community Partnerships



**ACTION PLANS**

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**Linking Data and Resources**



**start**

**stop**

*what will you...*

**continue**

**change?**

# KOOLAI ANALYSIS

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- **Kkeep**
- **What aspects of the current family engagement partnership are working well and should continue in the future?**
- **What is unique/good/significant that you would want to continue or unchanged?**



# KOOL AID ANALYSIS

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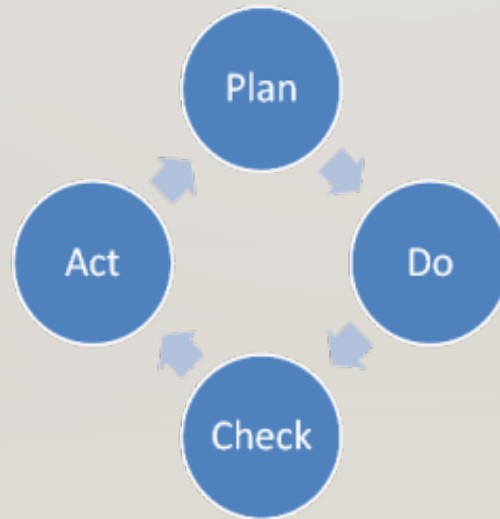
- **Add**
- **What would you like to see added to the existing program or partnership?**
- **What are some gaps in capabilities that could be met?**
- **Should there be more financial support?**
- **What addition might improve morale, commitment, leadership?**



# KOOLAID ANALYSIS

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- Improve
- **What aspects of the partnership need to be improved?**
- **Are there emerging needs ?**
- **Is there new information or research that should be applied to improve this partnership?**



# KOOLAI D ANALYSIS

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- Drop
- Are there aspects of the current partnership that are no longer effective or appropriate and should be discontinued?
- Has there been a significant decrease in demand for something?
- Is there a better way that could replace the existing process?
- Is some aspect of the family engagement programs ineffective but still being continued anyway?

# THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

## ASK YOURSELF:

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- Is the way that I measure family engagement aligned to my goals?
- What are my results really telling me?
- How do I know if the results are impacting student learning?
- Are the outcomes of the family engagement goal what I really want to know?



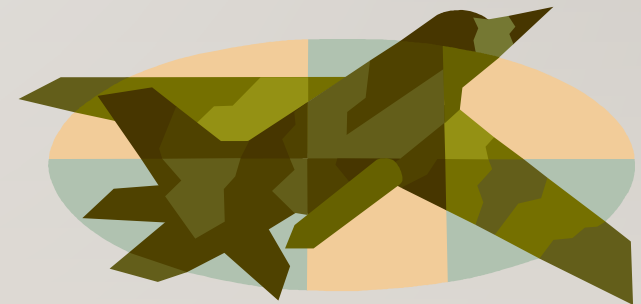


# WHAT'S NEXT? GOAL SETTING

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## SHEET OF PAPER

- 1. Write down a GOAL for your next step
- 2. Set a DATE for accomplishing your GOAL
- 3. Write your name and contact information on the paper
- FOLD THE PAPER INTO A PAPER AIRPLANE
- FORM 2 LINES FACING EACH OTHER
- ON THE SIGNAL, FLY YOUR PLANE
- CONNECT WITH THE PLANE'S OWNER



# THANK YOU! WE APPRECIATE WHAT YOU DO.

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- Contact us for additional staff training needs or for follow-up staff development

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