Family Engagement Leadership Institute

This nine-month Institute equips school principals and district administrators to lead family engagement strategies that directly impact student learning and well-being.

Participants

- School principals
- District administrators that oversee departments (e.g. CAOs, Title I Directors, HR Directors, etc.)

Participants can also request to have a member of their leadership team co-participate with them.

Key Components

- **Virtual trainings**
  Participate in four half-day group sessions at key points throughout the year.

- **Collaboration with a team**
  Apply and deepen the learning by building on existing initiatives with a team or staff and families. Existing teams can be used or a new team can be created.
  
  *Note: Team members also receive some training, but the primary participant is the leader*

- **Coaching**
  Receive differentiated 1-on-1 and small group support from expert leaders and cohort peers.

- **National cohort experience**
  Engage in regular collaboration and receive support from cohort peers, Institute alumni, family engagement experts, and scholars.

- **Artifacts of growth**
  Capture learning and progress in simple ways throughout the year.

Led by

- **Dr. Eyal Bergman**
  - Senior Vice President, Learning Heroes
  - Former district leader for family engagement
  - Co-author with Dr. Karen Mapp of the *Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships (Version 2)* and *Embracing a New Normal: Toward a More Liberatory Approach to Family Engagement*. Author of *Unlocking the "How": Designing Family Engagement Strategies that Lead to School Success*

- **Shana McIver**
  - Senior Director of Learning & Practice, Learning Heroes
  - Former district leader for family engagement

To learn more, reach out to: feli@learningheroes.org

Total time commitment averages 1-2 hours per week from September to May.
Institute Goals and Key Outcome

**Three Key Goals**
Institute participants should be able to:
1. Understand the most essential research on family engagement in schools.
2. Apply the best practices and leadership moves that improve family engagement strategies.
3. Clarify their school/district’s family engagement strengths and challenges, and develop a plan with safe-to-fail experiments in collaboration with families and staff.

**The Key Outcome of the Institute**
Institute participants will culminate the Institute with an equity-focused family engagement strategy for the following year that:
- Is integrated into existing priorities and plans (e.g. instructional goals, school climate strategies, etc.)
- Involves new and/or re-purposed investments (e.g. increased staff time to partner with families, PD funding, etc.)
- Applies existing management tools (e.g. hiring practices, policies, etc.)

What Participants Are Saying

“I have pages and pages of notes that have been very helpful in leading my team.”
Barb Lange
Principal, Storm Lake, Iowa

“If you’re in a situation now where you need to see more family engagement, you will learn so much... it’s a group of people that want to see you succeed, so you really have nothing to lose.”
Steven Ward
Principal, Minneapolis, Minnesota

“The Institute has provided resources to look at family engagement from another lens and actually ensure that it’s meaningful for parents.”
Dr. Selena Volcy
Principal, Miami, Florida

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