Advancing Partnerships: Parent and Community Engagement actionable playbook

This resource provides questions to guide evidence-informed improvement in effective parent and community engagement strategies in Queensland state schools. It is based on best practice research as identified in the Department’s Parent and Community Engagement Framework.

1. Pre-conditions
   Readiness to improve

2. Problems of practice
   Evidence-based process and focus of effort

3. Maximum learning progress

- Differentiated teaching and learning
  Do target strategies support teachers and school staff to effectively work with parents and the broader community to strengthen student learning outcomes and wellbeing and to respond to different contexts (e.g. rural and remote locations, high proportion of working parents, culturally and linguistically diverse parents, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, significant community events such as natural disasters)?
  Link to resources on Parent and Community Engagement Framework website

- Systematic curriculum delivery
  How does the school seek to build parents’ capacity to support their child’s learning?

- Effective pedagogical practices
  Is there a shared understanding of evidence-based practices to assist teachers and school staff to reflect on how parent and community engagement can improve the quality of classroom teaching and learning?

- Expert teaching team
  Is staff expertise recognised, acknowledged and utilised in the engagement of parents and the local community?

- Analysis and discussion of data
  How does the school measure and understand improvement in parent and community engagement?

- A culture that promotes learning
  What parameters are in place to determine the quality of relationships with members of the school community?

Targeted use of school resources
Do particular parents need support? Could other community groups play a greater role (e.g. community services, industry, universities)?

School-community partnerships
Are appropriate engagement strategies identified in partnership with parents, teachers, support staff, students and community leaders? How are new ideas to increase parent engagement evaluated?

An explicit improvement agenda
Are school-community partnerships a priority in the school’s Strategic Plan and does the Annual Implementation Plan identify strategies for continual improvement in this area, including identification of success indicators in relation to parent and community engagement?

Analysis and discussion of data
How does the school use various evidence such as School Opinion Survey data, student achievement, P&C feedback to evaluate whether partnerships are having their intended impact on improving student outcomes?

A culture that promotes learning
Does the school leadership team regularly discuss and review sustainable parent and community engagement strategies? How does the school seek feedback from the P&C and other partners about effectiveness of strategies and opportunities for improvement?

Results in

Queensland Government