

Home Visits Best Practices

Informed by the PTHV model

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Zoom Etiquette

- Make sure that your microphone is on mute
- Utilize the Q&A feature for questions only
- Save comments and collaboration for the chat

Agenda & Learning Objectives

- What is family and community engagement?
- What is a family home visit?
- What is the Parent Teacher Home Visit Model?
- What should I do before, during and after a home visit?
- What is ongoing communication?
- Leveraging your “fambassador” and cultural brokers.

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement is a *full, equal, and equitable partnership* among families, educators and community partners to promote children's learning and development from birth through college and career.

-Ann Henderson & Judy Carson

According to the Flamboyant Foundation, there are five roles' families play in helping to accelerate student learning.



COMMUNICATE
HIGH EXPECTATIONS



MONITOR
THEIR CHILD'S
PERFORMANCE



SUPPORT
LEARNING AT HOME



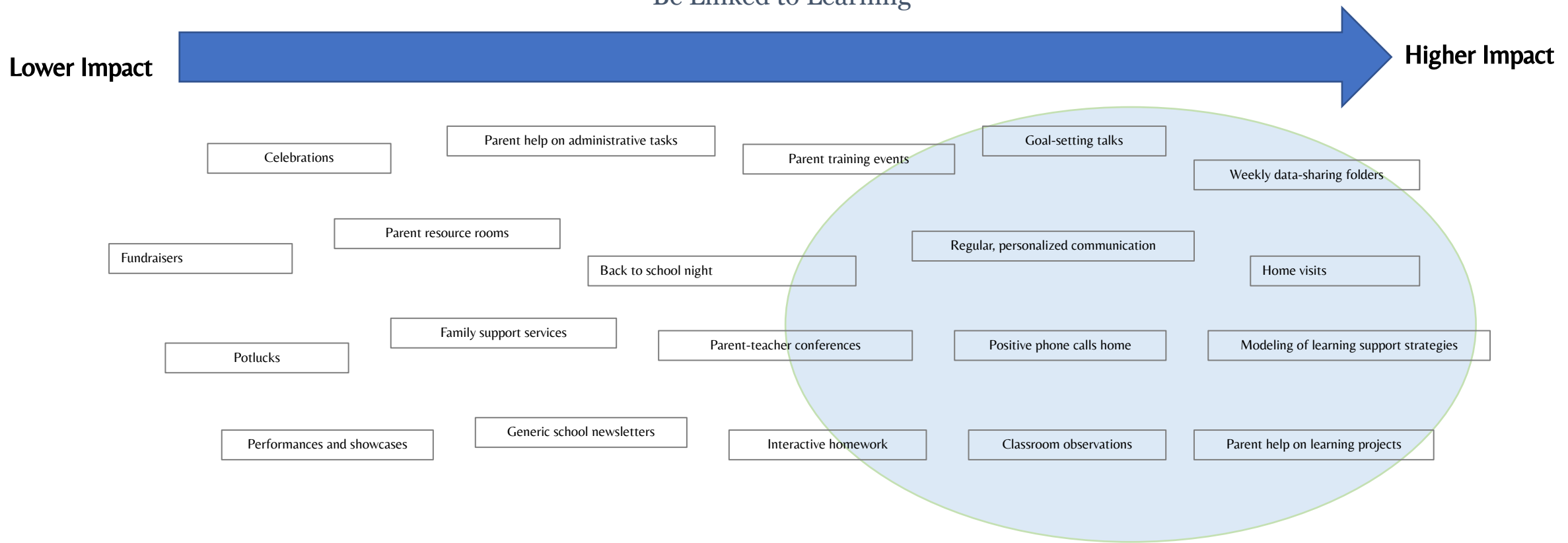
GUIDE
THEIR CHILD'S
EDUCATION



ADVOCATE
for Their Child

High Impact Family Engagement

US Department of Education Framework: Family Engagement Should Be Relational, Should Build Capacity Of Families And Staff, And Be Linked to Learning



Courtesy of Flamboyant Foundation

TRUSTING FOUNDATIONS

Academic Partnering

BETWEEN FAMILIES + EDUCATORS

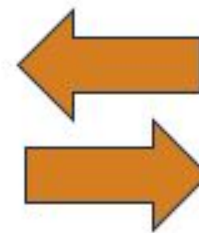


Trusting Relationships

BETWEEN FAMILIES + EDUCATORS



Ongoing Communication



Strengthening Partnerships Framework

What are the Elements?

These sequential elements provide the foundation for the Framework. Each element builds on the one before. The Elements are:



Building Positive Relationships



Promoting Pathways for Partnerships with Families



Promoting Family Well-being



Supporting Child and Youth Development and Learning

Strengthening Partnerships Framework

Building Positive Relationships Goals

Goal 1: Intentionally build and sustain relationships with all families

Goal 2: Build reciprocal and balanced communication with families

Goal 3: Collaborate with families to create and/or promote connections among families



Courtesy of masfec.org

Strengthening Partnerships Framework

Guiding Principle 3



Building a respectful, trusting, and reciprocal relationship is the shared responsibility of families, practitioners, organizations, and systems. This positive relationship has the individual family's strengths and assets at its center.

Courtesy of masfec.org

Benefits of Family and Community Engagement

- Stronger communities
- Healthier families
- Stronger students
- Increase in job satisfaction
- Increase in teacher retention
- Increase in positive school climate
- Higher school performance

WHY MIGHT FAMILIES NOT ENGAGE?



Logistics for families and schools



“Generational Disrespect” and distrust of schools



Language and cultural barriers



School connections to law enforcement



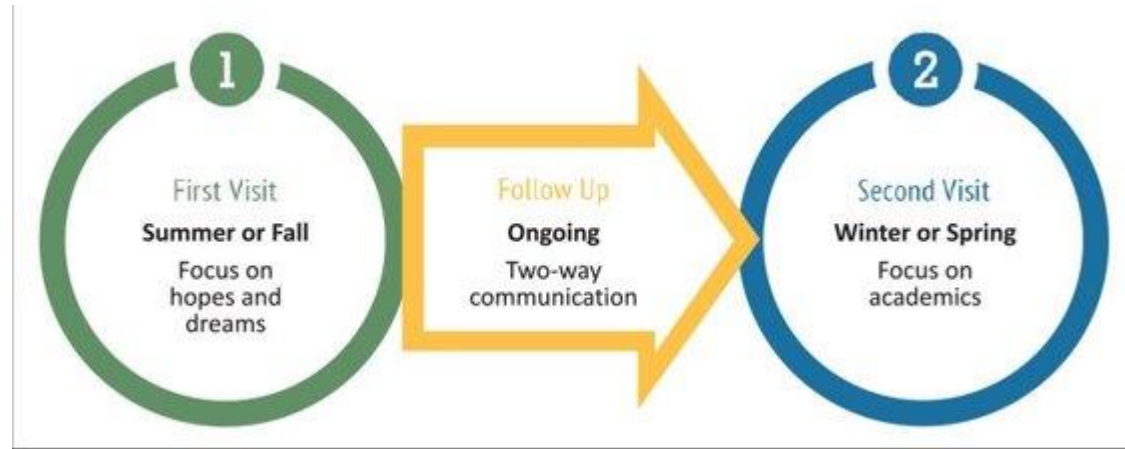
Home Visits Help to...

- Strengthen relationships between the family and school
- Gain insight into potential barriers to attendance, homework completion, etc.
- Humanize each other
- Establish a pathway for communication and collaboration
- Gain insight into family strengths to build on

Home Visits 101

- Visits last 30 minutes and are voluntary for everyone (teachers and families).
- Educators are trained and compensated.
- Educators go out in pairs.
- All students (or a cross section of students) are visited (no negative targeting).
- Visits focus on shared vision and values for success of students.

The Parent Teacher Home Visit Model



Home Visits 101

1. Pre- Visit

- a. Coordinate with the family the best day and time to meet.
- b. Verify the address with the family. If they ask to meet somewhere that is not their residence, that is okay.
- c. Confirm who your partner teacher will be.
- d. Confirm the visit with the family the day prior to the visit.

2. During

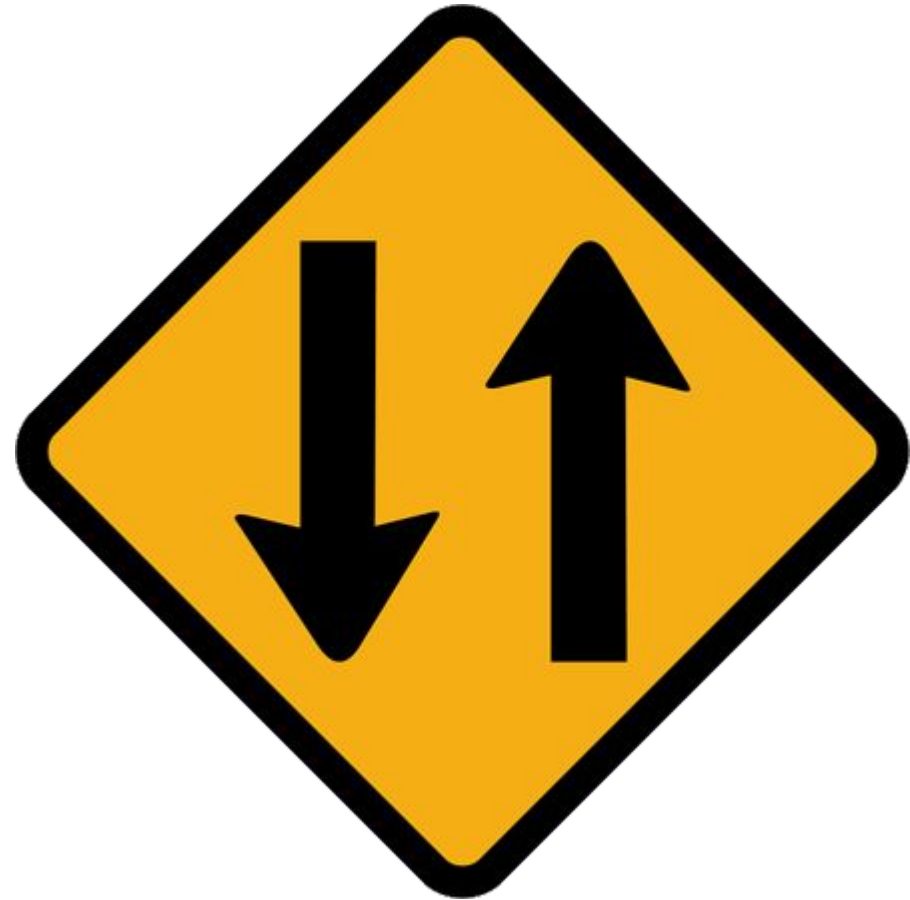
- a. Gifts: If it is anything of high-value, \$5 or more then you can politely decline.
- b. Food: Accept when possible and appropriate.
- c. Keep the visit positive.

3. Post

- a. Let your supervisor know when you have left.
- b. Document the visit with notes, photo of the visit, and tracker completion.

FACE is about mutual communication and collaboration.

The biggest responsibility an LEA has is setting up a climate where families can and feel comfortable reaching out.



Relationship Building Calls



Get to know each other



Elevate hopes and dreams



Focus on what is most important



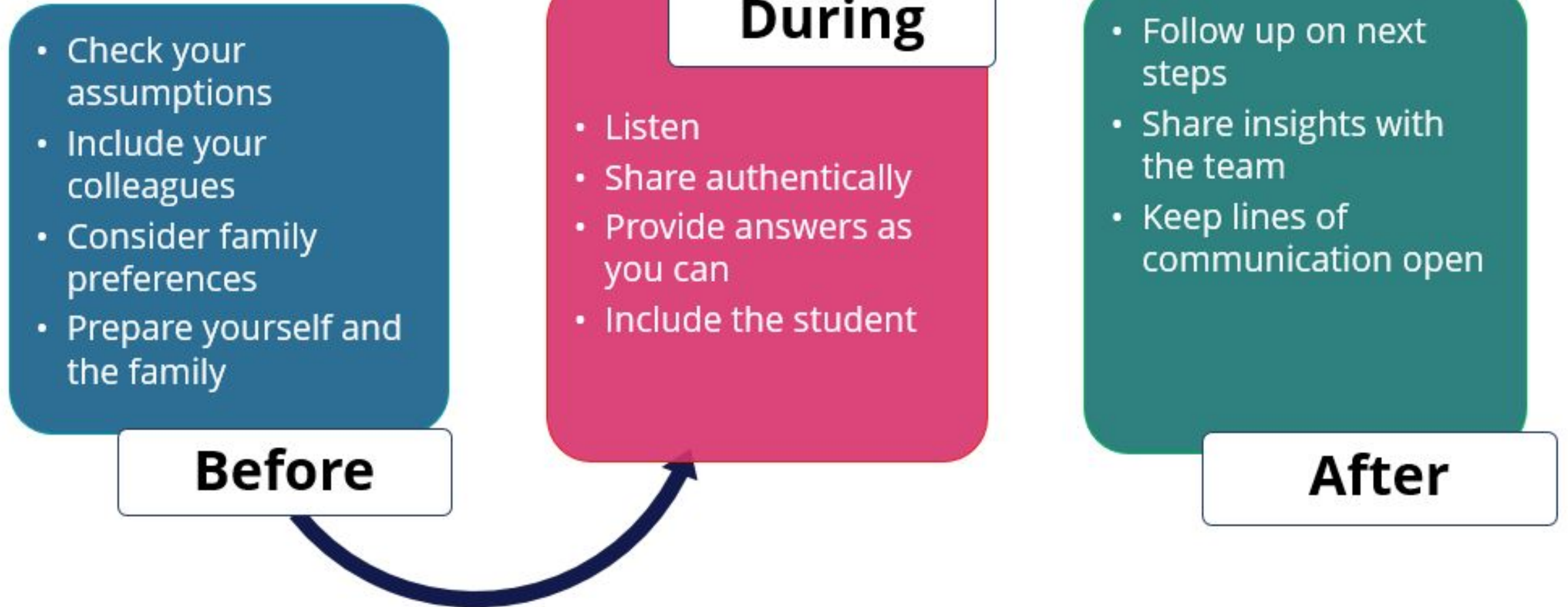
Be authentic



Frequent and consistent communication



COMMUNICATION AT A GLANCE



QUESTIONS TO BUILD TRUST

- Tell me a little about your child – what do they like or dislike?
- As your child's new teacher, what should I know about them?
- What are some things you can share about the best way to teach/motivate/inspire your child?
- What are your hopes and dreams for your child – both for the upcoming school year and beyond?
- As your child's teacher, what are your expectations of me?
- What's the best way to communicate with you?

Ongoing communication is the request most often requested by parents.

How often are we communicating with families? Why are we communicating? How are we communicating?

Large group share out.

ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS REFLECTION TOOL



Keep track of families' preferred method of communication



Reflect on the quantity and quality of your ongoing communications



Develop action steps to ensure equitable communication with all families

ONGOING COMMUNICATION REFLECTION TOOL



<https://bit.ly/ongoingcommtool>

Everyone has a role to play

- District Level Leadership
- School Specific Leadership
- Day-school Classroom Teachers
- Paraprofessionals
- School Nutrition Professionals
- School Maintenance Professionals
- School Resource Officers
- School Counselors
- School Social Workers
- School Librarians

What is a FAMbassador?

Ambassadorship:

- Get your school excited about this project.
- Promote the mission of building positive relationships with families.
- Make sure that everyone on staff/faculty can explain the purpose of the home visits.

Duties

- Present celebrations and guidance at school/team meetings
- Assist with the buy-in of everyone at the school

Expectations

- Attend required trainings
- Complete documentation

Thank you!

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