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# Partnerships for Middle School Success!

*A Family & Community Engagement Pilot*


February 8 & 10, 2022

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# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Background Information
- Partnerships for Middle School Success Pilot Initiative
  - Importance of Family Engagement
  - Goals of the pilot
  - Phase 1
  - Phase 2
- Questions

# Introductions

 <b>USBE</b> Utah State Board of Education	<b>WestEd</b>  WestEd.org	<b>Utah Education Policy Center (UEPC)</b>  UTAH EDUCATION POLICY CENTER THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
Jessica Kallin Family and Community Engagement Specialist	Kenwyn Derby	Ellen Altermatt
Tracy Vandeventer Director of the Center for Continuous School Improvement	Maria Paredes	Cori Groth
	Melinda Wallace	Emily McDowell
	Content Specialists	Lisa Wisham

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# WestEd

**WestEd is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research, development, and service agency that works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults.**



WestEd is committed to the belief that all students should succeed in our schools and that all individuals — from infants to adults — should thrive in our communities.

Glen Harvey, WestEd  
Chief Executive Officer

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# Family Engagement in Utah

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# USBE Background

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.

Family Engagement should be **relational**, should **build capacity of families and staff**, and be **linked to learning**.

SB 184 requires USBE and a provider to create a pilot complementary approach to school improvement that draws on community resources and engagement.

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# Partnerships for Middle School Success Pilot

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# Why family and community engagement is important

**Schools** that have equal partnerships with **families** are more likely to:

- Sustain improvement efforts
- Improve student attendance
- Decrease disciplinary issues
- Develop positive school climate and culture
- Improve teacher satisfaction & reduce turnover

Wood & Bauman, 2017

When **families** are equipped to engage with learning, their **children** are more likely to:

- Improve their grades
- Attend school more regularly
- Enroll in higher-level programs and graduate
- Have fewer discipline issues in/out of class
- Be more positive about school and learning

Henderson & Mapp, 2002



# Share your thinking

**Perception:** **90%** of parents, regardless of race, income, and education level, believe their child is at or above grade level in reading and math.

**Reality:** Only about **40%** of students perform at grade level or higher.

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# Goals of the pilot initiative

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Equip and inform families to help their children thrive in secondary school

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Build stronger connections between families, educators, and community partners

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Develop successful student transitions in the middle school years

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Build partnership capacity across the school community



# Pilot Phases



**Phase 1 – Building Readiness**  
March 2022 - June 2022



**Phase 2 – Implementation**  
June 2022 - June 2023

## Phase 1 – Building Readiness (February – June 2022)

Key Activity	Responsibility	Draft Timeline
<i>Selection of six middle schools</i>	<i>USBE, WestEd</i>	<i>February 2022</i>
School kick-off meetings	WestEd, schools, LEAs	March 2022
School community needs assessment	UEPC, schools	March-April 2022
Assemble school FACE improvement teams	Schools	March-June 2022
Planning	WestEd, FACE teams	Ongoing
Data collection and analysis	UEPC	Ongoing

## Phase 2 – Implementation (June 2022 – June 2023)

Key Activity	Responsibility	Draft Timeline
Initial professional learning event with each school (importance of FACE)	WestEd	Summer 2022
Planning	WestEd, schools, FACE teams	Ongoing
<b>Family &amp; Community Learning Events (3)</b>	Schools, FACE teams	August 2022-May 2023
Event reflection meetings (after each event)	WestEd, schools, FACE teams	August 2022-May 2023
Data collection and analysis	UEPC, schools	Ongoing
Final implementation/evaluation report	UEPC	Summer 2023

# Next Steps



- Talk with your team about this opportunity now



- Complete the interest form by Feb. 18 [link in chat and follow-up email]



- USBE will make selections by March 1



- Questions?

Reach out to Jessica Kallin

USBE Family and Community Engagement Specialist

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# Any questions?

