



Utah State Board of Education

Family & Community News

Welcome Back!

It has been a busy Summer for us at the Utah State Board of Education.

We do hope that you all were able to find some time to relax and have fun. We'd love to welcome you back to school with a summary of all things Summer, resources, and a little bit of inspiration as you start planning your year.

Communities of Practice

We will be meeting virtually starting in September to share our family and community engagement success stories and to be thought partners with each other. Save these



Family and community engagement professionals from across Utah joined us on June 1st and June 2nd for our first in-person

dates on your calendars for the Fall.

- Friday, September 15, 2:30 - 4:00 pm.
- Friday, October 20, 2:30-4:00 pm.
- Friday, November 17, 2:30-4:00 pm.
- Friday, December 1, 2:30-4:00 pm.

Come and go as you need to. Click on the yellow date for the Zoom link.

training with the Flamboyant Foundation!

We will be hosting an additional training on September 29th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please complete [this registration](#) form to reserve your spot. This will require some pre-work and is mandatory if you would like to receive MIDAS credit. More information will be sent out after you have registered for this event.

Our Family & Community Engagement Specialist presented at the 2023 BOOST conference. BOOST brings K-12, afterschool, Summer, and community programs together to celebrate and learn best practices for our youth and families. During the conference, it became clear that family can mean many things to multiple people.



As we work to understand those we serve, it is important that we develop our understanding of who **we** are.

Families can look different for people. Submit your definition of family [here](#).

Special Shout Outs



In June, professionals from around the world, including a large Utah presence, were able to gather in Philadelphia to learn more about family and community engagement! As registration information is released I will be putting together a one-pager for you to be able to use to let your organization know about this opportunity and the benefits of your participation.



These benefits include learning from other professionals like the Family and Community Engagement Specialists at Granite School District who presented on their APTT Educator kits! These professionals presented at the IEL conference in Philadelphia to a full house on the resource they've created to help ease the workload on teachers when tasked with creating APTT activities. If you would like more information, contact Alaina Wilcock at awilcock@graniteschools.org

Bonus Resources

- [Career Day Guide](#): Career Day is a fun time full of wonderful presenters. How much more exciting could it be if we invited our families and alumni to be the voices of opportunity? Please read the USBE Career Day Guide which has centered on family and community engagement in your planning.
- [The Power of Literacy](#): I encourage you to listen to this podcast episode featuring Hilderbrand Pelzer III. They discuss their work in juvenile detention centers and I encourage you to consider how literacy serves as a protective factor for our students. I also encourage you to brainstorm how we as educators can strengthen our practices to ensure our students are able to grow their literacy skills. Utah passed SB 127 and has committed to a 70% rate of K-3 students reading at grade level by the end of third grade by the year 2027. Stay tuned to learn about what supports the USBE is putting in place to help LEAs reach this goal.
- [Parent Portrait of Meaningful Inclusion Conference](#): Get your families to the inclusion conference! We had so much fun with those working in schools over the Summer but it is time to make sure we are answering parent questions as well. Please forward this to your families via your newsletters, social media posts, and LEA websites.



Does Your Child Have a Disability?
Learn about what Inclusion in the Classroom Means for Them

West Ed Partnership for Middle School Success

- **Are you a leader at an LEA that works with middle school students?** Do not miss the opportunity to work with West Ed for the Partnerships for Middle School Success pilot program! West Ed will work with your LEA to leverage in-person events for higher family engagement impact. Email susie.estrada@schools.utah.gov if you are interested in

learning more. You must be a designated middle school to apply to participate.

Indicator 8 Goal Achievement Updated List

- Column Two

Academy for Math Engineering and Science

Information to share with your Spanish-speaking parents! A 25-hour course to help them build their skills with special education and how they can be leaders in their child's education.



There is also an English workshop for parents that is hosted by the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council which offers leadership and advocacy training for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and disability community.

To register see the attached flier or [follow this link](#). If you have any questions or need an alternative registration form contact us at uddc@utah.gov or at 801-245-7350.

2023-2024 ALPS Program Dates

Session 1: September 22 and 23rd

Session 2: October 6 and 20th (Online only)

Session 3: November 17 and 18th

Session 4: January 19 and 20th

Session 5: February 9 and 23rd (Online only)

Session 6: March 15 and 16th

Session 7: April 12th and 26th

Session 8: May 17th

Important information

There is no cost to participate. UDDC will provide food when we meet in person at the UDDC office in Murray, UT. Participants who live 50 miles away from the UDDC office can be reimbursed for mileage and UDDC will pay for a hotel.

This year will be offered in a hybrid format, so participants can join online or in person.

Lastly, another parent event to support families is the Utah Parent Center's Family Links Conference and Fall Family Festival!



FREE Registration is now open for the 2023 Family Links Conference. Join us for information about Early Childhood, Assistive Tech at Home, Mental Health, Transition to Adult Life, Independent Living, and More!

8 Virtual Sessions: September 5-7, 12pm-1 pm and 6:30 pm-8:45 pm

1 In-person Session: Tour an Independent Living Center. September 6th, 6-7 pm

What is the Indicator 8 Survey?

The USBE administers the Indicator 8 survey yearly to larger LEAs and every other year to smaller LEAs. The Indicator 8 survey is specific to families whose children receive special education services and seeks to measure the percentage of parents who report that the school facilitated parent involvement in the process of providing services to their students. Questions on the survey ask about relationships families have with staff, ease of communication and involvement, and communication. [Answer these three quick questions about indicator 8!](#)

Indicator 8 Superstars!

Survey administration can be difficult. More than reaching positive scores, LEAs invest energy, creative talent, and charisma to increase their response rates. We want to celebrate the following LEAs who have already met their LEA response rate goal during this survey cycle:

- Academy for Math Engineering & Science
- Athenian eAcademy
- Canyon Grove Academy
- Daggett District
- Excelsior Academy
- Leadership Academy of Utah
- Mountain West Montessori Academy
- Noah Webster Academy
- North Star Academy
- Real Salt Lake Academy High School
- Sevier District
- Spectrum Academy
- Venture Academy
- Walden School of Liberal Arts
- Winter Sports School

Great job! **Let's get to a 100% response rate!**

Important Dates

- Our June 1st and 2nd [REAL Family Engagement Training in Partnership with the Flamboyant Foundation](#) is 100% FULL. We are so excited to have our first cohort ready. If you would like to attend future training, please complete [this interest form](#). Those on the waitlist will have priority registration.
 - June 7th-9th: Join the USBE in Philadelphia at the [2023 National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference](#)
 - Registration for the [2023 National Family Engagement Summit](#) is open! Virtual and in-person options are available.
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Promising Practices:

West Ed Partnership for Middle School Success

The USBE has been working with West Ed and the Utah Education Policy Center on a pilot program aimed at increasing student success, advancing school improvement efforts, and strengthening community partnerships. The long-term objective of this work is to learn and create an evidence-based middle school family and community engagement model that is replicable, scalable, and sustainable for middle schools throughout the state of Utah.

Key Takeaways from the Partnership

- **Prioritize family engagement:** FACE Teams and Specialists help to ensure that family engagement is embedded systemically throughout the day-to-day operation of your LEA.
- **Be intentional:** Ensure that your communication is specific, explicit, concise, and accessible to your families.
- **Don't reinvent the wheel:** Modify existing events with interest, attendance, and positive feedback from parents. Reshape what you are already doing to center families.

Would you be interested in future pilots? Piloting this program provided data support, mentorship, and consultation on event planning at no cost to the

LEA. Contact me at susie.estrada@schools.utah.org if you would be interested!

PARENT OR CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN 0-8 YEARS OLD

PARENT VOICE

\$100 FOR YOUR COMMITMENT


MEET ONCE A MONTH VIRTUALLY TO DISCUSS TOPICS TO HELP PARENTS INFLUENCE CHANGES TO MAKE UTAH MORE FAMILY FRIENDLY

MONTHLY STIPEND FOR 3 HOURS A MONTH

INVALUABLE SUPPORT NETWORK
INSIGHT FROM ACROSS THE STATE!


Join us for a Virtual Introductory Meeting with Information about Early Childhood Utah


June 14, 2023
10 am



RSVP Here

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3ZTQSCM](https://bit.ly/3ZTQSCM)


Children's Service Society
Safe Children · Caring Families
Strong Communities · Since 1884


Utah Department of Health & Human Services

Please share this opportunity with your families!

Do you have something you want to celebrate?

Email: susie.estrada@schools.utah.gov

Include a description of your celebration and a picture of what would best represent your celebration. If the picture is of a person, a media release form is required and will be supplied upon request.

