



Utah State Board of Education

# Family & Community News

## In this article you will find:

- Reminders about upcoming events.
- Information on upcoming projects.
- Resources that can be shared with parents.
- Tips for building your family and community engagement strategies.

### Reminder

It's a sad day when illness makes you cancel something you have been looking forward to! How does a do-over sound?

Save the dates and register for our future Communities of Practice Dates!

[Register for October 20 here.](#)



## PANORAMA EDUCATION

It is your first year in a classroom. Your hopes are high, and your energy is charged. Did you imagine yourself as a student or teacher?

Belonging and inclusion are at the center of family and community engagement.

[Register for November 17 here.](#)

[Register for December 1 here.](#)

All sessions will be hosted via Zoom from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

If you are unable to attend but would like to share a topic or question, please email me with the subject line COP TOPIC to [susie.estrada@schools.utah.gov](mailto:susie.estrada@schools.utah.gov).

Cultivating environments for thriving is key to keeping all school members engaged.

Panorama Education references school climate as the quality and character of school life. [Read more here](#) and pick 1-2 quick questions you can use as reflection questions for your students, teachers, and families. These questions can function as quick pulse checks to get an informal idea of what strategies you may need to improve the school climate at your LEA.

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## JOIN US AND PARTICIPATE IN A FREE PROGRAM TO BUILD LITERACY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AT YOUR LEA!



SB 127 Community Engagement and Science of Reading



We invite you to participate in an upcoming information session to learn more about a special project with the USBE in partnership with MGT of America. This project focuses on engaging families and communities to ensure at least 70% of Utah's 3rd-grade students are reading at grade level by 2027. LEAs will participate in two-year cohorts beginning as early as January of 2024.

### Program Highlights:

- Create a data-driven roadmap specific to your school to engage families and communities effectively in literacy development.
- Expand your skill set via three high-impact professional learning sessions designed to equip school-based community coordinators with the knowledge, skills, and

resources to effectively engage families and school communities in literacy development efforts.

- Engage in Communities of Practice, small groups that bring participants together to share common goals and strategies, with other leaders across the state.
- Consult with community engagement and Science of Reading experts on your school's roadmap and identify the next steps to support and engage your school community.
- Learn how to implement regional literacy events that empower your school community.
- Elevate your school's literacy and engagement with a multitude of collaborative resources and toolkits.

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[Register here](#) to attend an information session on  
**October 12, 2023, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

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**Short on time? Enjoy this [minute tip on Transformative Family Engagement](#) from the National PTA.**

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## Did you miss this?

*From The Special Educator, July 2023.*

### **Involve Parents in Modeling Healthy Coping Skills**

In case you missed the July 2023 Special Educator newsletter, parents and families can help in building students coping skills. Highlights on how to involve parents and families:

- Attend parent group meetings. This can also include helping to plan parent workshops. As professionals, we have great ideas on what our families currently need but *asking* families what they need is a keyway to improve participation with attendance as well as engagement! A quick pulse check of parent needs can be done at already scheduled events like APTT night, Parent Teacher Conferences, and even pick-up.
- Support parent's skill development! This can mean utilizing a curriculum like the [Be Strong Families](#) (not a USBE endorsement) to help parents identify topics of concern and practice how to engage in difficult conversations with their students. You can also consider

hosting workshops for parents to build their own skills around general interpersonal communication or coping skills. Increase their skills and awareness so that they can model healthier strategies to deal with stress or conflict for their students.

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## We hosted our second in-person Family and Community Engagement Back to Basics training!

- [Join us for our next in-person training, on January 19, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. by registering here.](#)

## A resource to share with your families!



Our friends at the Glendale – Mt. View Community Learning Center are offering free support for youth and adults looking to advance their professional journey! Contact [Arturo.canela@utah.edu](mailto:Arturo.canela@utah.edu) for more information.

### Supports Available

- Guidance through the FAFSA process and support to prepare you for college and success.
- Support for your journey towards exciting professional opportunities.
- Help finding and applying for the financial support necessary to cover postsecondary education expenses.
- Educational programs tailored to Salt Lake City's westside neighborhoods.

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## Grant Opportunity!

The National PTA's Center for Family Engagement is offering [multiple grant opportunities](#). Learn more here and please note that some of these have short turnaround times to apply while others are ongoing.

### Do you have something you want to celebrate?

Email: [susie.estrada@schools.utah.gov](mailto: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.

