

The list of activities below is intended to describe a range of activities schools and communities might employ to engage with each other. It is not exhaustive, but is intended to spark thinking and dialogue for more ideas.

Providing Information	Encouraging Involvement	Sharing Power
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning exhibitions to feature student work • Individualized academic progress dashboard • Newsletters, email updates • Robo-calls and text messages • Games, such as a trivia contest to inform or gather input • Presentations to the community (e.g.: "State of the Schools" report) • School leader (superintendent, principal) weekly/monthly column in local newspaper • Student art exhibitions in local businesses; student music performances in community • Announce the school's commitment to equitable practices and outcomes for all students, and have the principal publicly outline a clear plan for achieving these goals • Staff keep parents informed of any major policy change that will affect them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent cafes (a social event which includes an opportunity to gather input from participants) • Surveys (parents, students, faculty, community) • Weekly student discussions • Photo booth (ask individuals to respond to a question by writing a response on a white board and take a photo while holding their response) • Asset mapping of school district/community • Network map of connections between families, teachers, students, and community members • Film screening and dialogue nights • Families visit classrooms to share their culture and traditions and give children an opportunity to share their home language and culture with other students • Opportunities to help in the classroom • Staff ask parents regularly for input about their child's needs. • School has a parent suggestion box and staff are prepared to address parents' suggestions constructively. • If the staff doesn't speak the languages of all families, the program uses interpreter services for communicating verbally and in writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programs in mentoring, homework support, engagement, etc. for students, families, educators, and community members • Student, family, and/or community forums designed to include dialogue, and exchange of ideas, and mechanisms for collecting input • Student-led conferences with teachers and family members • Advisory councils including students, families, and community members (e.g.: internship council; student-centered learning council; service-learning council) or personalized learning design team • Invite parents to lead in focus groups about cultural issues in the community and school • School offers home visits to provide information about parent opportunities directly to families, and seeks their input on goals for their children and builds relationships • Teachers and parents work together to set academic goals for the child • Include students and families in the review of discipline data and the refinement of discipline policies • Modify school policies and practices in order to effectively engage diverse parents and recognize cultural and linguistic differences

- Make parent and guardian participation at school events feasible by mitigating common barriers to attendance: vary meeting times and locations, provide live translation, serve food, and offer transportation and childcare as needed.

- Staff ask and/or assist parents to write an article for the newsletter: For example there is an "Ask Another Parent" section, or an editorial section that parents can contribute and voice their ideas/opinions
- Collaborate with community stakeholders to create a strategic plan that includes a vision and mission statement for the district and a multi-year plan to guide the administration of schools and services for students
- Review the school's mission statement with staff, parents, and the community, and compare existing practices and organizational structures with the mission statement to ensure that programs are in alignment with its expressed principles
- Adopt an "open door" policy so that any staff member, student, or parent with a significant concern about the school can meet with the principal and leadership team
- Invite a broad representation of school and community stakeholders to collectively develop a vision and mission that are ambitious but feasible, and based on proven, research-based strategies.
- School has a program improvement council, Steering Committee or Advisory Board where parents, students and community members help set the agenda.