

# Teacher Guide To Engaging Families For Student Success



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## Chapter 1: Why Engagement Matters

Studies have shown that student engagement is a key factor in academic success. When students are engaged in their learning, they are more likely to:



### Powerful Partnerships: A Teacher's Guide to Engaging Families for Student Success by Jessica Lander

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- Attend school regularly
- Participate in class activities
- Complete assignments on time
- Achieve higher grades
- Graduate from high school

In addition to improving academic outcomes, student engagement can also lead to:

- Improved social and emotional development
- Reduced absenteeism and dropout rates

- Increased parental involvement
  - A more positive school climate
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## **Chapter 2: Building Relationships with Parents**

The first step to engaging families is to build strong relationships with parents. This means getting to know them as individuals and understanding their needs and concerns. Here are a few tips for building relationships with parents:

- Make an effort to meet with parents as soon as possible after the school year begins.
  - Be open and honest with parents about your expectations for their children.
  - Listen to parents' concerns and try to be responsive to their needs.
  - Be positive and enthusiastic about your students and their families.
  - Be available to parents outside of school hours.
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## **Chapter 3: Communicating Effectively with Parents**

Once you have built strong relationships with parents, it is important to communicate with them effectively. This means providing them with regular

updates on their children's progress, as well as responding promptly to their questions and concerns. Here are a few tips for communicating effectively with parents:

- Use a variety of communication methods to reach parents, such as email, phone calls, and written notes.
  - Be clear and concise in your communication.
  - Be respectful of parents' time and attention.
  - Use positive language and focus on the child's strengths.
  - Respond to parents' questions and concerns promptly.
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## **Chapter 4: Creating a Welcoming and Inclusive School Environment**

All families should feel welcome and included in the school community. This means creating a school environment that is open and welcoming to all, regardless of their race, ethnicity, culture, religion, or socioeconomic status. Here are a few tips for creating a welcoming and inclusive school environment:

- Make sure your school website and other materials are inclusive and represent the diversity of your student body.
- Host events that celebrate the diversity of your school community.
- Provide translation services for families who do not speak English.
- Make an effort to get to know families from all backgrounds.

- Be aware of your own biases and assumptions
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## **Chapter 5: Involving Parents in the Learning Process**

Parents can be a valuable resource in the learning process. They can help their children with homework, reinforce what they learn in school, and provide them with support and encouragement. Here are a few tips for involving parents in the learning process:

- Provide parents with information about the curriculum and what their children are learning in school.
  - Encourage parents to read to their children and help them with their homework.
  - Invite parents to volunteer in the classroom
  - Develop opportunities for parents to learn about educational issues and resources.
  - Create a parent-teacher association (PTA) or other organization that provides opportunities for parents to get involved in the school community.
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## **Chapter 6: Supporting Parents as Partners**

Parents are the most important people in their children's lives. They are their first teachers and they have a profound impact on their children's development. As teachers, we can support parents as partners in their children's education. Here are a few tips for supporting parents as partners:

- Treat parents with respect and listen to their concerns.
  - Provide parents with information and resources to help them support their children's learning.
  - Be flexible and understanding when it comes to parents' schedules and needs.
  - Celebrate parents' successes and acknowledge their contributions.
  - Work together with parents to develop a plan for their children's success.
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Engaging families is essential for student success. By building strong relationships with parents, communicating effectively with them, creating a welcoming and inclusive school environment, involving them in the learning process, and supporting them as partners, we can help our students reach their full potential.

This guide provides you with the tools and resources you need to engage families and build a successful partnership between the school and the home.

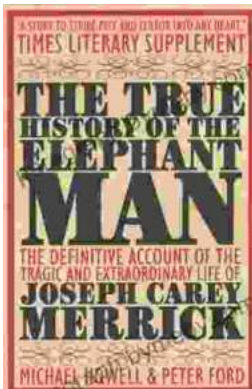
Thank you for your commitment to student success!



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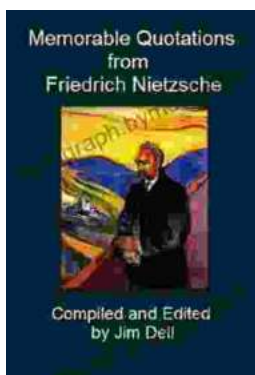
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