

# 2022 CULTURE AND CLIMATE CALENDAR

## OCTOBER: STRENGTHENING FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS

### WEEK 1

#### Appraise Current Practices

*Appraise current family engagement practices through reflection*

- Who benefits from current family engagement practices and who does not?
- How are current practices informed by whom we serve?
- How do our current practices develop reciprocity between our school and families?
- How are we building relational trust?

<https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/family-engagement-reimagined>

### WEEK 2

#### True Collaboration

*Move from "family involvement" to school-family partnership*

- Shift from unidirectional and school-centric to true collaboration.
- Expand from families as volunteers or attendees to some level of shared decision-making.
- Be mindful of addressing and including diverse perspectives.
- View family partnership as a critical priority, not a "to do" if there is time.

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/partners-education.pdf>

### WEEK 3

#### One Size Doesn't Fit All

*Try a multi-tiered tiered strategy or approach to family engagement*

- Universal: Supports that are accessible to all families (family-teacher conferences)
- Tailored: Support for groups with similar needs (conference options like virtual or phone)
- Intensive: Individualized supports not often needed (monthly check-in with high need student)
- Apply this engagement strategy to all of your planning from conferences, surveys or events

[A multi-tiered approach to family engagement](#)

### WEEK 4

#### Reducing Barriers

*Use data instead of anecdotes to identify obstacles & plan strategically*

- Use [empathy interviews](#) to elicit specific experiences and uncover needs.
- Use surveys to gauge current challenges and successes.
- [Plan specific strategies](#) to address common barriers.
- Include family voice in goal setting and planning.