



2022
ANNUAL
REPORT

Ohio Statewide
**Family
Engagement
Center**

— at The Ohio State University —



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT



Our mission at the Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center is to provide high-impact, evidence-based supports for family engagement in education so that all students can benefit from having strong family, school, and community partnerships.

The support, of our Ohio partners and those across the Nation who have connected with us this past year, has meant the world to us!

Ohio's Statewide Family Engagement Center is a federally funded Center that was established in 2018 at The Ohio State University. We are located at the Center on Education and Training for Employment, within OSU's College of Education and Human Ecology.

We partner with the Ohio Department of Education to empower educators and parents/caregivers to create strong relationships with one another to support the educational success of K-12 students. The Ohio Department of Education's 16 State Support Teams in each Ohio region, along with Educational Service Centers, are key partners in helping to share the Center's resources and tools with schools and families and to provide coaching for Ohio school districts.

A wonderfully diverse group of 60 State Advisory Council members guide our efforts, including 30 parents/caregivers, and organization/school leaders from around Ohio.

We hope you will enjoy reading more about our initiatives and their impact in the pages that follow!

We are very proud to state that in 2022, Ohio's Partnership Schools Network grew to include **104 schools within 46 school districts!** Our goal in selecting, supporting, implementing, and researching this model developed by Dr. Joyce Epstein is to build the nation's strong evidence-base of family engagement best practices.

Another huge win for our team in 2022 was offering several online courses for educators. Most notably needed was an up-to-date foundational course on family engagement for Ohio's educators, which now exists and has been offered three times!

We waded into new territory in 2021-2022 with **five new branded initiatives:** GrandUnderstandings, the Family-to-Family Video Series, Real Talk Webinars for families with young children, Money Talks family financial literacy modules for middle school families, and Middle Years to Careers. We also produced several research briefs, including our most recent one on mental health. We continued providing many professional learning opportunities, including our Annual Summit, and expanded the reach of our Middle Ground initiative.



Ohio Statewide

Family Engagement Center

at The Ohio State University

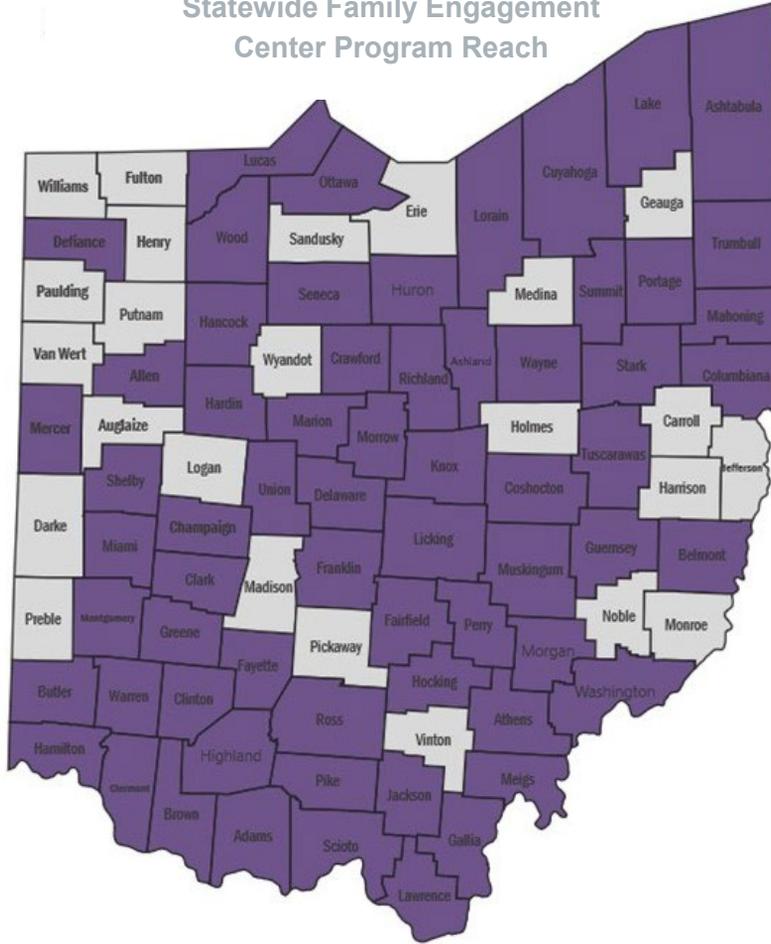
#GrandUnderstandings

Professional Learning

**MIDDLE
GROUND****Family
to Family**
VIDEO SERIES**Real Talk**
IDEAS FOR PARENTING
YOUNG CHILDREN**Middle Years to Careers****Money Talks**

The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center is part of The Ohio State University's Center on Education and Training for Employment, a translational research center within the College of Education and Human Ecology.

Statewide Family Engagement Center Program Reach



Ohio Partnership Schools



Counties with Family Engagement Leaders of Ohio Participants



Counties Represented by Families on Statewide Advisory Council



Increasing Capacity Aligned with Federal Grant Measures

Each year, we report our progress to the U.S. Department of Education on 4 key measures they track for all Statewide Family Engagement Centers. This year, we increased our impact for 3 out of 4 measures and maintained impact for the 4th measure.

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Measures		
	2020-2021	2021-2022
GPRA 1: # families served	Target: 3,496 Actual: 4,947	 Target: 6,916 Actual: 6,224
GPRA 2: # high impact activities to build statewide infrastructure	Target: 5 Actual: 11	 Target: 6 Actual: 11
GPRA 3: # high impact activities to ensure families can effectively engage in activities leading to student achievement	Target: 64 Actual: 245	 Target: 128 Actual: 491
GPRA 4: % of families receiving SFEC services who report having enhanced capacity to work with schools and service providers	Target: 35% Actual: 65%	 Target: 40% Actual: 80%



Professional Learning

Our Center developed a variety of exciting learning opportunities for educators and families in 2021-2022. Dr. Joyce Epstein offered professional development in the evidence-based Partnership Schools Model for district leaders and school teams in Ohio. Our Annual Summit with a keynote by Dr. Muhammad Khalifa was inspiring, timely, and well-attended with 709 active participants. We launched an updated [Professional Learning hub](#) on our website to house our offerings. Our presentations at national, state, regional, and local events drew in over 4,000 educators and families. Additionally, the 70+ presentation recordings hosted on our website and our [YouTube Channel](#) were viewed over 4,000 times. We now offer six [research briefs for educators](#).



Dr. Joyce Epstein

Our adult learning experts offered three online courses this year: Foundations of Family Engagement, a blended online learning course for K-12 educators and leaders, was offered once in 2021 and twice in 2022 to hundreds of educators. Partnering with Families to Support Early Literacy is a fully asynchronous course for PreK-3rd grade teachers that was refined in 2021 and was offered to over 200 educators in 2022. We also collaborated with the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement to develop an online course called Reframing Family Engagement, which was offered in early 2022.



Dr. Muhammad Khalifa

3 ONLINE COURSES
offered

890 PARTICIPANTS
at Annual Leadership Summit

4,000 PEOPLE
attended our presentations





Scaling up Evidence-based Practice: A 3-year Snapshot

As a Center, we have been working closely with the Ohio Department of Education to scale up one evidence-based family engagement model, called the Partnership Schools Approach. We now have 3 cohorts of districts actively implementing this model and receiving professional learning and coaching support from: Dr. Epstein at Johns Hopkins State University, Ohio's State Support Team Consultants, and our Center Staff. Survey data from the State Support Teams indicates that 9+ districts are scaling up beyond what we are tracking.

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3
2019-2020	Recruitment Year Target: 16 districts, 32 schools Actual: 16 districts, 32 schools		
2020-2021	Implementation Year 1 14 districts, 29 schools	Recruitment Year Target: 16 districts, 32 schools Actual: 17 districts, 37 schools	
2021-2022	Implementation Year 2 12 districts, 25 schools	Implementation Year 1 17 districts, 34 schools	Recruitment Year Target: 16 Districts, 32 schools Actual: 17 districts, 44 schools

"I appreciated the time to WORK and that it was not just a lecture."

"Dr. Epstein is very knowledgeable and able to connect what we're saying to specific examples/resources."

"The step-by-step guidance that was given was helpful."



MIDDLE GROUND

Family engagement for
success in the middle grades

Our Middle Ground project at the Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center provides educators and families with research-based tips and opportunities for launching middle schoolers' success.

In 2021, our Center conducted a pilot research intervention for Graham Elementary and Middle School. The pilot program involved text-based tips and information for families, sent by their child's teachers, along with professional development for middle school teachers/staff.

The study included surveys from teachers, parents/caregivers, and students—147 parents/caregivers working with their child's teachers participated. The research team published an article in the *School Community Journal* and continues to pursue additional opportunities to conduct research and share presentations on effective engagement in middle school. Our Middle Ground work is seen as trailblazing in the field of family engagement and has inspired other organizations and Family Engagement Centers in the U.S. to develop resources for middle school engagement.

147

FAMILIES

participated in pilot study

**ARTICLE
PUBLISHED**

In Scholarly Journal

**RESOURCES
DOWNLOADED**

5,000+

TIMES *since 2019*





Middle Years to Careers



In 2021-2022, we collaborated with The Ohio Department of Education and associates at the Center on Education and Training for Employment at OSU to develop resources that schools and families can use to support middle school students' career exploration.

These resources have included:

- ❖ a research brief for educators,
- ❖ 3 family and student engagement guides for schools to use at different points along the continuum of career exploration, and
- ❖ conversation starters schools can share with families.

Thanks to the efforts of our Middle Years to Careers project team, these strategies were in the toolbox of many more school counselors and other educators in 2022. We will continue to develop, share, and refine this compendium of resources in years to come. A presentation about these resources was given at the 2022 National IEL Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference in Los Angeles.

RESEARCH BRIEF
DOWNLOADED
894
TIMES

CONVERSATION
STARTERS
DOWNLOADED
481
TIMES

PRESENTED TO
7 PROFESSIONAL
NETWORKS



Money Talks

Our Center collaborated with faculty and graduate students at The Ohio State University in 2021-2022 to develop Money Talks, a short, family-friendly online series about talking to middle school children about money.

For each of 5 topics, families can access:

- ❖ conversation starters to use at home with their children,
- ❖ quotes from parents/caregivers,
- ❖ games, activity ideas, and other resources.

This series is available in English and Spanish. Each topic has adult financial planning tools downloadable for free from OSU Extension that families normally pay for. Within each topic there is a planning tool for families to keep track of their conversation plans.

Conversation Starters

Choose from the questions below to start a conversation with your middle schooler!

- How do you prioritize the things you want to spend money on?
- How is spending money affecting your happiness? What about saving money?
- If you made a plan for your spending, what would it include?
- Have you compared prices when going shopping? Did you find a good deal?
- What is your most important financial goal?

In 2022, we presented about these resources to National, State, and Local audiences and received positive reviews. Our Center plans to continue to offer these for families to access at no cost.

400+
FAMILIES
accessed modules

2 **LANGUAGE**
VERSIONS
developed

"Awesome tools.
I am very excited to
start these
conversations with
my middle schooler."
- Ohio Parent





Expanded Offerings for Families

In addition to the many resource posts on our website for families, we collaborated with our State Advisory Council and other new partners in 2021-2022 to provide families in Ohio and beyond with 3 additional offerings.

Our Family-to-Family videos are 2-minute windows into the parenting world of other families. This series was initiated by members of our State Advisory Council to capture the important lived experiences of Ohio families and their unique partnerships supporting their child's education.

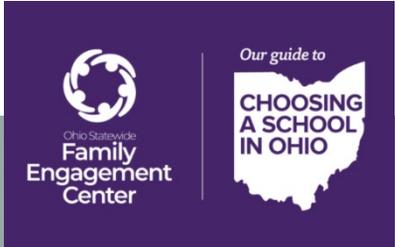
Thus far, we have 10 videos posted on our website, covering a range of topics such as Choosing a School, Summer Learning, and Mental Health. The videos have been viewed collectively over 300 times. In 2022, we shifted from this video series format to a Family-to-Family podcast.

In 2021, we collaborated with the A. Sophie Rogers School for Early Learning at The Ohio State University to offer six, live, 30-minute webinars for families with young children. Recordings have been viewed over 100 times. Topics included:

- Teaching kids about Race, Equity, Diversity
- Making the Most of Story Times at Home
- Navigating Sibling Rivalry
- Potty Training Basics and Troubleshooting
- Loving with Limits – Guidance and Discipline
- Kindergarten Readiness and Transition

Our Choosing a School in Ohio tool walks families through a series of questions to help them figure out what school choice options are a good fit for their child. It links back to state level resources from the Ohio Department of Education.

In 2022, our Center continued to host this tool on our website, updated the tool to reflect changes to Ohio's school options, and produced a video to accompany the tool. Our Center also hosts a variety of other resources for families to make informed choices about where they will send their children to school.





Outreach and Engagement Analytics



State Advisory Council

- Approximately 30 family representatives and 30 state and community leaders
- 4 virtual meetings, with active work groups providing guidance and ideas infusing our work with family and community voice

Website

- Average of 2,750 users per month
- 64% increase in traffic from 2021
- 86 new resources
- 64,000+ users since launch in 2019



News & Guidance Listserv

- Over 1700 subscribers
- Monthly content sent via MailChimp
- 30% increase in readers from 2021

Social Media

- [Twitter](#) followers increased 29% to 1,394
- [Facebook](#) followers increased 37% to 396
- [YouTube](#) subscribers increased 71% to 91



