**Should We Include Families on this Team?**

Include Families on the Team When…

* The work being done requires buy-in from families.
* The team will be ongoing, long term, and instrumental to the ability of the school or district to fulfill its mission of educating students.
* The tasks the team will engage in require multiple and diverse skills, perspectives, and resources.
* The team’s goals are directly in support of the school or district’s goals.
* A trusting relationship between families and the school will help the team achieve its goals.
* Our focus is providing families with resources or information to meet their needs.
* The team’s goals center on wholistic supports for students.
* Actions at home between families and students will help the team achieve its goals.

**Ask yourself…*Who cares about this issue and why?***

Answering this question permits leaders to think beyond their personal and/or professional role to develop a big picture of the issue in practice. This helps to highlight who should be included on a team.

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| **Who cares? Who has a stake in this?**  **Who can make a difference?**  [List by role, organization, position, name, etc.] | **Why do they care? How will this affect them?**  **How will their participation make a difference?**  [Note their connection to the issue.] |
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**Then, ask yourself…*Are there voices of certain (sub)groups going unheard?***

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| **Who is missing?**  [List by role, organization, position, name, etc.] | **How can we reach them?**  [Create a plan for inviting and involving them.] |
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