



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.

Who cares? Who has a stake in this? Who can make a difference? <small>[List by role, organization, position, name, etc.]</small>	Why do they care? How will this affect them? How will their participation make a difference? <small>[Note their connection to the issue.]</small>

Then, ask yourself...Are there voices of certain (sub)groups going unheard?

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

Adapted from:

- Aguilar, E. (2016). *The art of coaching teams*. Jossey-Bass.
- The IDEA Partnership. (2014). *Leading by convening: A blueprint for authentic engagement*.
<http://www.ideapartnership.org/documents/NovUploads/Leading%20by%20Convening%20508.pdf>