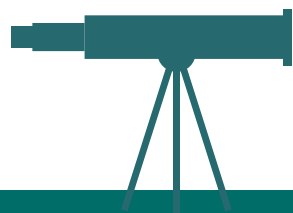


SECOND ANNUAL



Ohio Family Engagement

— LEADERSHIP SUMMIT —



*CHARTING NEW
TERRITORIES*

in Family Engagement



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT



Ohio Statewide
**Family
Engagement
Center**

— at The Ohio State University —

Minnesota Statewide
Family Engagement Center
A project of PACER

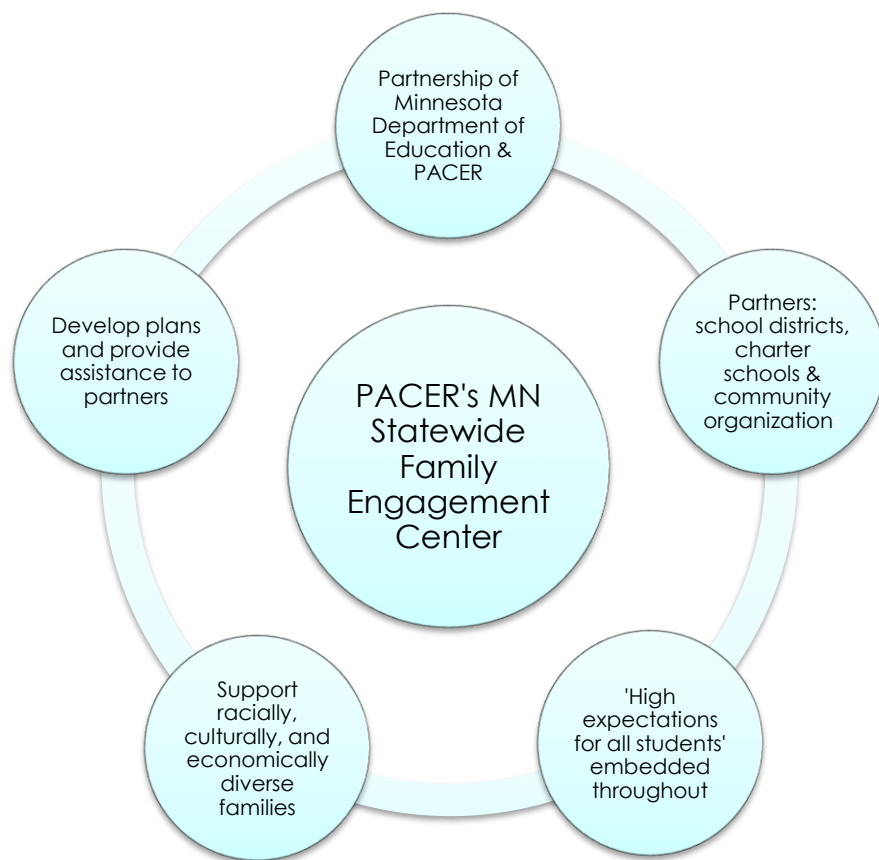
Practical Tips: Working Effectively with Culturally Diverse Families



PACER Center

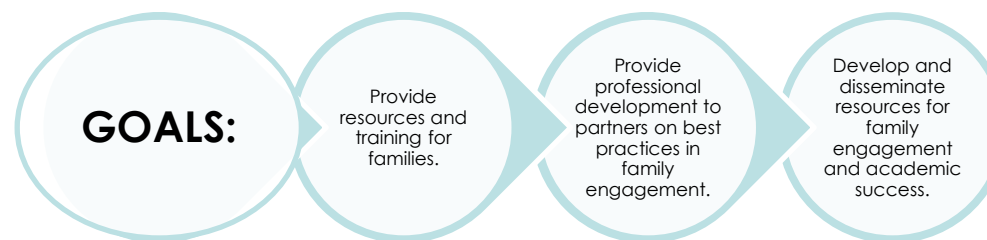
- Serves children ages birth through young adults
- Over 30 projects:
 - Simon Technology Center
 - National Bullying Prevention Center
 - Minnesota Statewide Family Engagement Center (MNSFEC)

Minnesota Statewide Family Engagement Center (MNSFEC)



www.pacer.org/learning-center/family-engagement

Contact
Information:
mnsfec@pacer.org
(952) 838-9000



Research Indicates

- ❖ Research indicates that there is no significant difference in parents' interest in their children's success based on race, ethnicity, socioeconomic class, or cultural background.

Bonnie Jean Smith

- Multicultural specialist, Parent Advocate, and trainer for PACER Center for 21 years
- Member of the MN Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, evaluator for the MN Council for Quality, member of the monitoring and TA Review System team for the Federal Administration on Developmental Disabilities
- Worked with high school students as a behavior specialist and as an educator and director at an Early Learning Center
- Parent to two children with developmental disabilities
- Author of the book *How Big is the Fly: Asking the Right Question*
- Co-author of the book: *Person-Centered Thinking and Planning, The Natural Rhythms of Life*



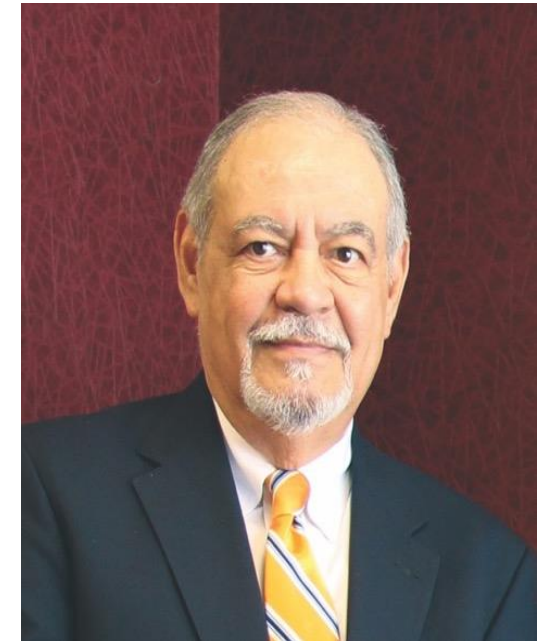
Tips for Engaging Diverse Families

Culture specific (African American)

- Equity
- Diversity of African Americans
- Family Engagement

Jesús Villaseñor

- Multicultural Specialist at PACER for 26 years
- Member of the Diversity Advisory Committee and Chair of the Latino Affairs Council
- Former National Field Reviewer for Cultural and Linguistic Appropriate Services Institute (CLAS)
- Parent of son with a learning disability



Tips for Engaging Diverse Families

Culture specific (Spanish/Latino)

- Engagement through Partnerships
- Engage your student, then the family
- Communication, communication, communication.

Hassan Samantar

- Parent Advocate and Trainer, Community Outreach Specialist and advisor to Somali families for 14 years
- Served on several district Interagency Early Intervention Outreach Committees
- Collaborates with state and federal agencies in Mental Health/ASD projects
- Former member of DHS (CECLC) Cultural & Ethnic Communities Leadership Council
- Member of Minnesota-ADDM (MN Autism and Developmental Disability Monitoring) community advisory board



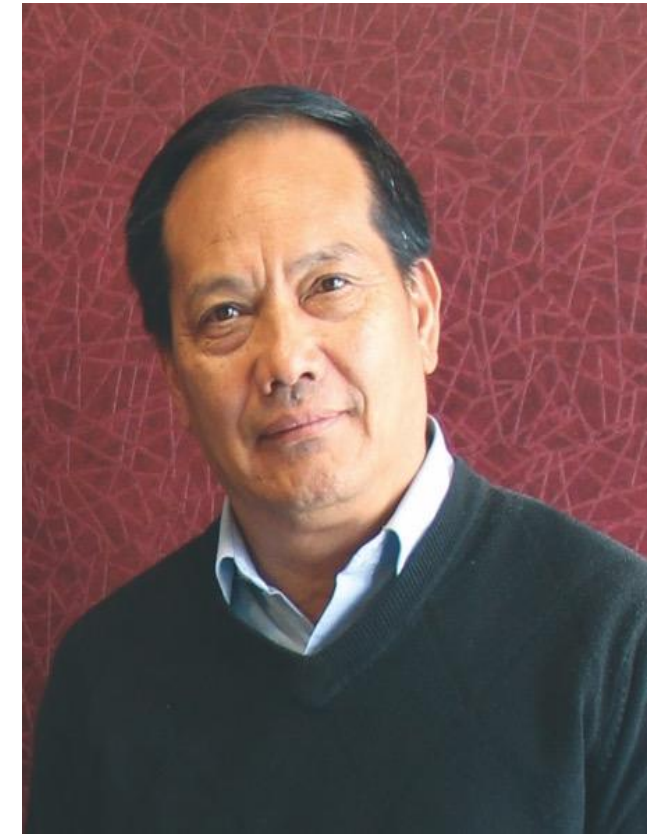
Tips for Engaging Diverse Families

Culture specific (Somali)

- Difference in education system
- Accommodation (time to meet in person)
- Explain engagement and offer a way to participate
- Indicate the correlation between engagement and academic success
- Consider Communication platforms families already using (WhatsApp)

Dao Xiong

- Parent advocate and trainer at PACER Center for 28 years
- Came to the United States as a refugee 36 years ago
- Parent of seven children, including an adult daughter with a mild cognitive disability and a son with mental health needs
- Chair of Board of Directors of Hmong Cultural Center in St. Paul



Tips for Engaging Diverse Families

Culture specific (Asian American Community)

- The diversity of Asian American Community
- Family-School Partnership

Parents vision and expectation

Parent-Teacher relationship

Communication

Q & A's

The more divergent your culture is from the family's culture, the more intentional you need to be in your interactions.

- ❖ Check for understanding, ***ask questions***, and talk things over.
- ❖ Do not assume—seek to understand.

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING!

OhioFamiliesEngage.osu.edu



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— at The Ohio State University —



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