

*We are committed to*

**BUILDING STRONG**

*family, school and community*

**PARTNERSHIPS  
TO SUPPORT  
EACH STUDENT.**

Ohio

Network of Partnership Schools

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*in partnership with*





Network of Partnership Schools

# Booster Session

**Barbara Boone, Ph.D.,**

Director, Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center  
The Ohio State University



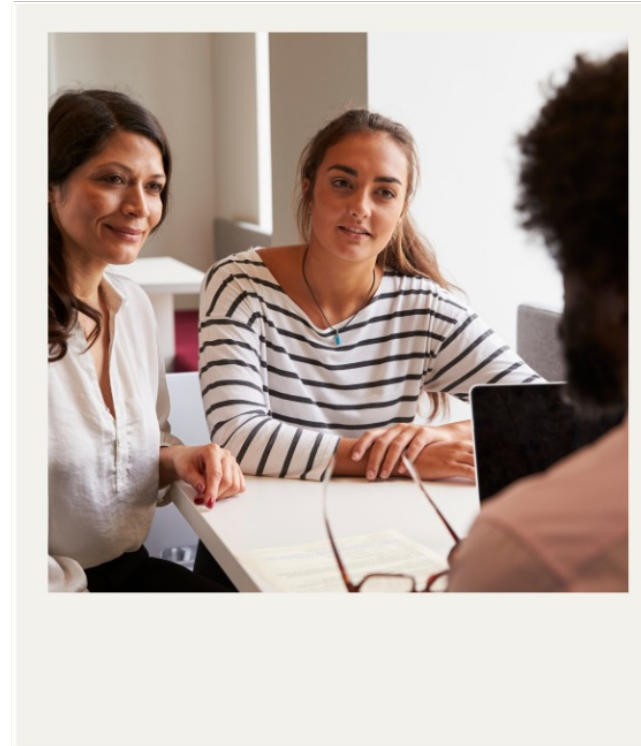


**Welcome!**



# Agenda

- I. Welcome!
- II. Student Voice in Family Engagement**
- III. Ohio Partnership School Examples
- IV. Next Steps for Your Action Team
- V. Adjourn





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# The Missing Link: Student Voice in Family Engagement

**Thomas Capretta**

Researcher, Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center  
The Ohio State University

**Jingyang (Max) Zhang**

Graduate Research Associate,  
Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center  
The Ohio State University



A middle school hosts parent-teacher conferences for all seventh graders' families on a Thursday afternoon. After parents arrive at the school building, they must find the assigned rooms by themselves. Teachers greet the parents in English and give them report cards printed in English. During a one-on-one meeting, the teacher focuses on what the student has not been doing well in school. Sometimes, the teacher says to the parent something like, "I am not sure why, but Emma doesn't seem to care about her homework. Maybe if you monitored her more closely at home, she would get her homework done." By the end of the meeting, the teacher and the parents discuss what they believe are the appropriate goals and strategies for the student.



# Scenario

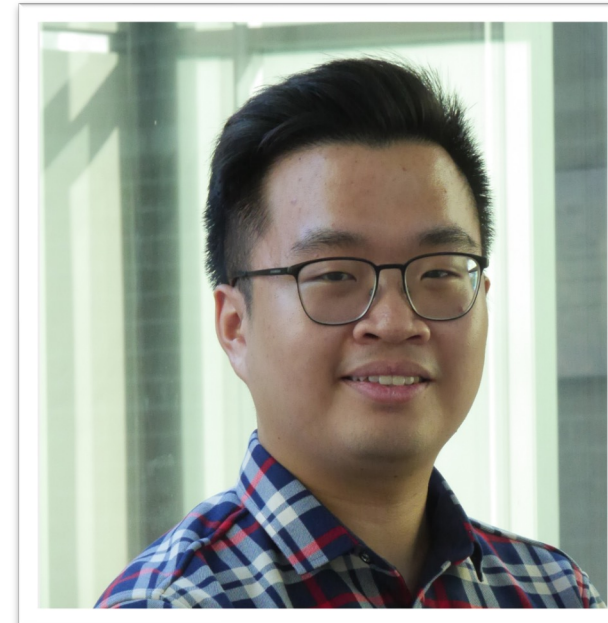
1. What do you notice about this scenario?
2. Is it fair to all families?
3. Does this scenario sound like something that might happen in your school?
4. What opportunities do you see for student voice to improve this scenario?



**Thomas Capretta**  
Researcher & Project Coordinator



**Jingyang (Max) Zhang**  
Graduate Research Assistant





# Learning Objectives



1

Explain the ways in which student voice is linked to positive student outcomes.

2

Share strategies and examples of how student voice is being promoted and heard in family-school partnerships.

3

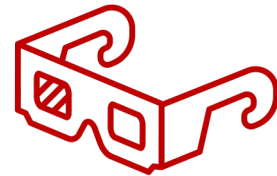
Being planning for including student voice in leading, planning, and/or practicing family engagement.



# Breaking the Ice: A different point-of-view



Scan the QR Code



-or-

Go to Menti.com and  
enter

**13 61 49 1**



## Students

"The role of a student between home and school is to communicate needs and practice leadership"

"To support students in this role, schools can build student confidence and develop social-emotional skills."

"To serve in this role, students need respect, space, and better channels of communication."

## Educators

"The role of a student is to serve as a liaison [between home and school]"

"To support students in this role, schools can acknowledge values, build relationships, and "train" parents"

"To serve in this role well, students need communication skills and good role models."



***why***

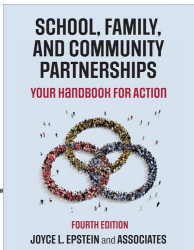
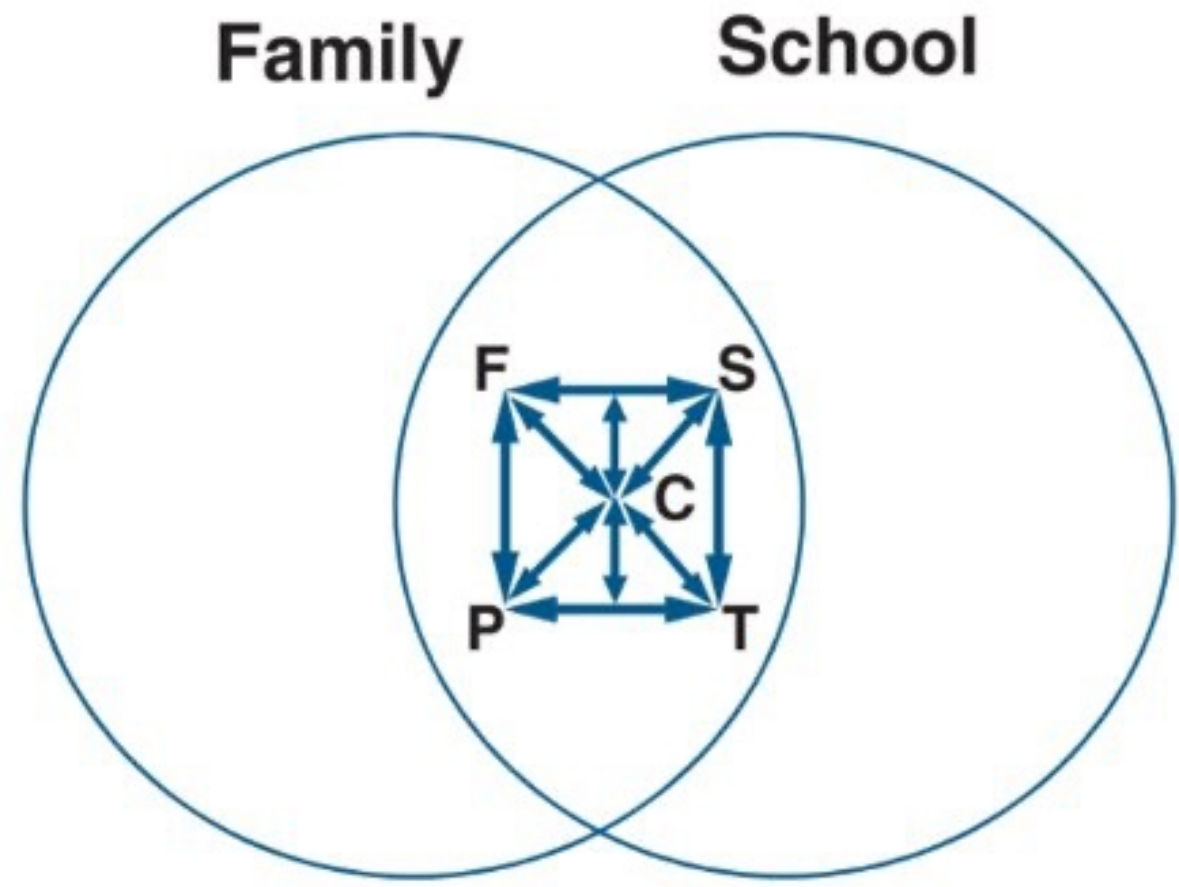
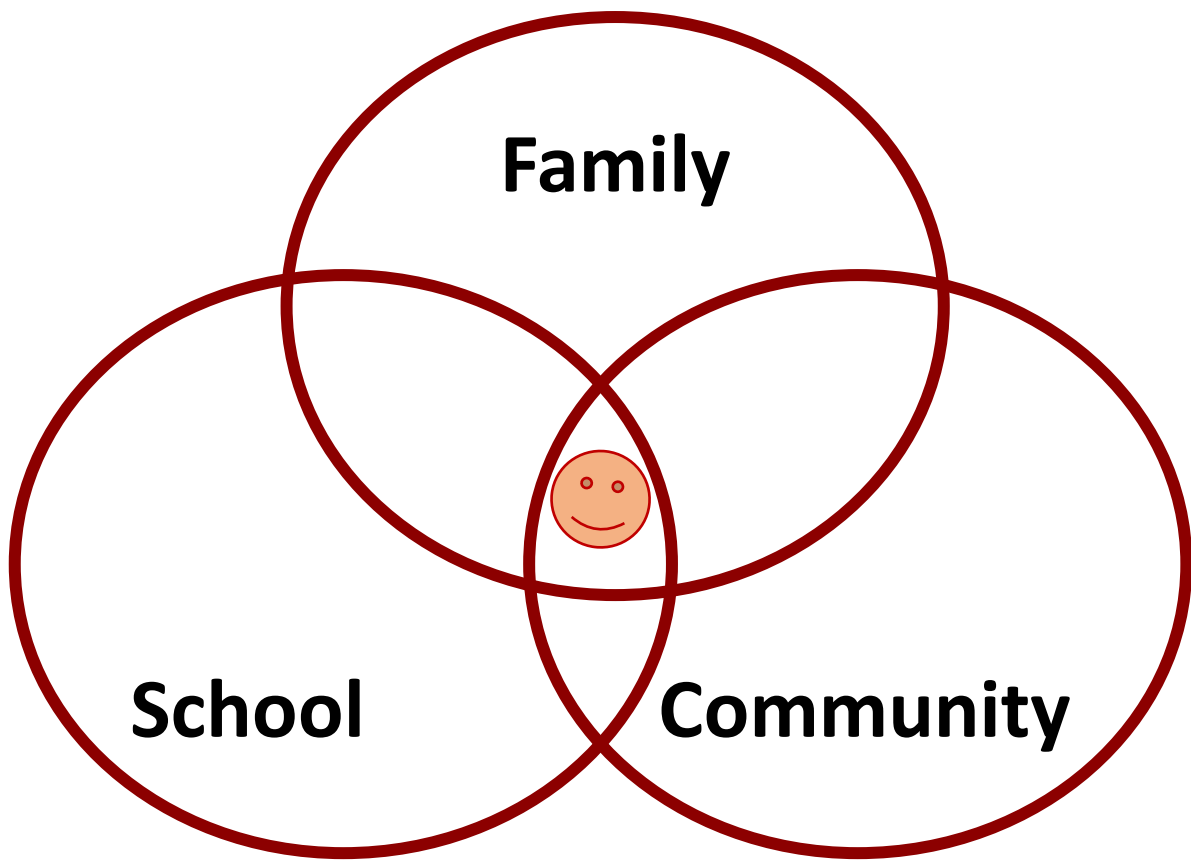




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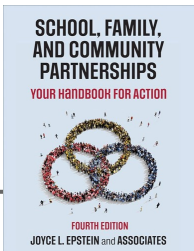
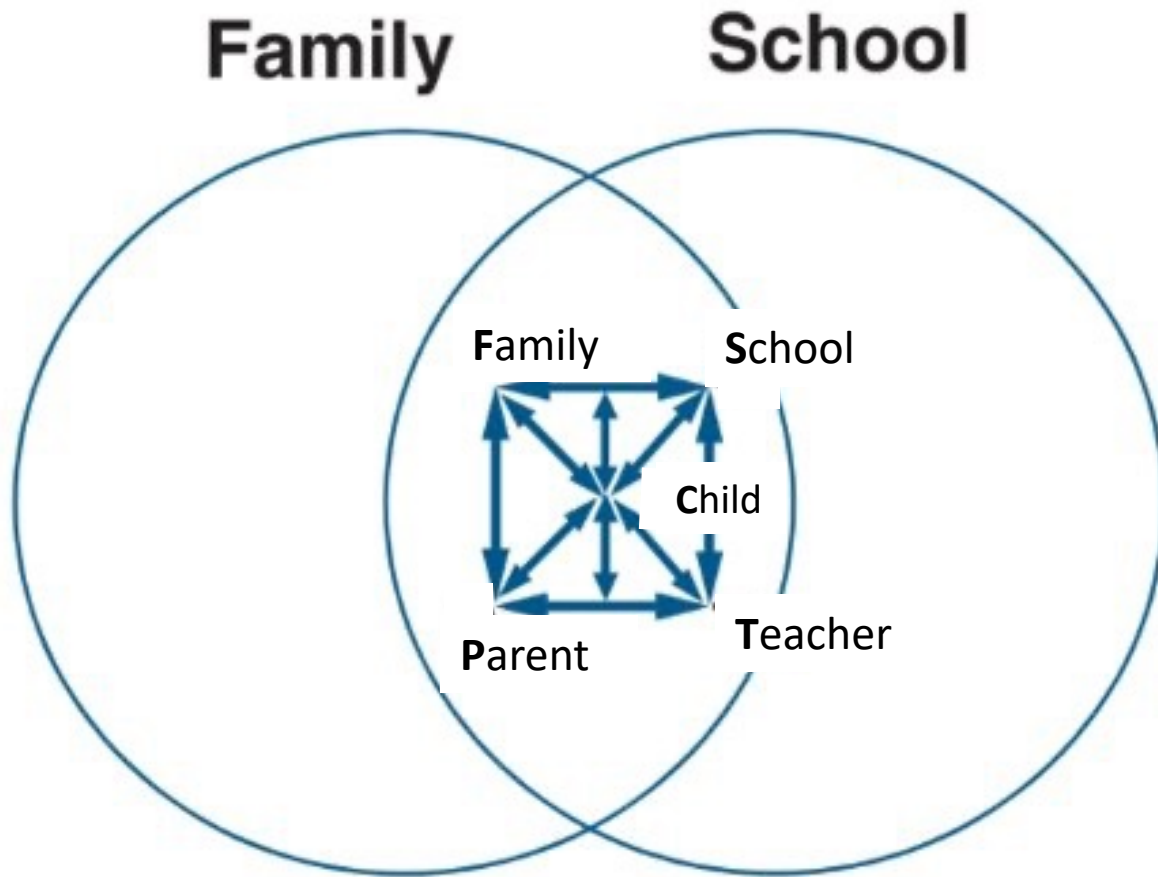
**Adolescents live and learn in overlapping spheres of influence.**





Epstein, J. L., Sanders, M. G., Sheldon, S. B., Simon, B. S., Salinas, K. C., Jansorn, N. R., Van Voorhis, F. L., Martin, C. S., Thomas, B. G., Greenfield, M. D., Hutchins, D. J., & Williams, K. J. (2019). School, family, and community partnerships : your handbook for action (Fourth). Corwin, A SAGE Company.





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2

**Adolescents'  
perceptions of  
family-school  
interactions  
influence  
student  
outcomes.**





3

**Adolescents as  
autonomous,  
independent, and  
responsible  
drivers of their  
own studies.**





# Examples from Ohio's Partnership Schools



**Network of Partnership Schools**



# Making Connections



**Head** – What do you think about the research and school presentations?



**Heart** – What is something that is inspiring you from the research or presentations?



**Hands** – How are you considering applying this information?



# Mansfield City Schools



**Holly Christie**, Director Student  
Support Programs  
**Dr. Dahni Reynolds**, District  
Behavior Analyst



# Leetonia Exempted Village



**Ryan O'Donnell**, Family School  
Liaison  
**Student**



# Licking Heights Local



- **Mitch Tom**, Director of Pupil Services
- **Kurt Scheiderer**, Principal South Elementary
- **Colleen Wildenhaus**, Asst. Principal West
- **Kate Bigley**, Asst. Principal Central
- **Jhuma Acharya**, Pupil Services
- **Students**



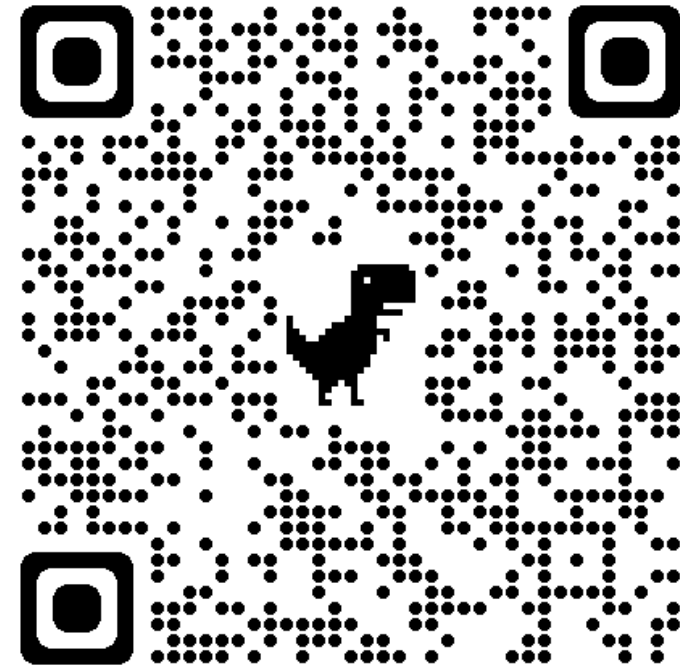
## Family Engagement with Students at the Center

Research-based Strategies for Educators

Developed by the Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center  
Jingyang (Max) Zhang, Barbara J. Boone, and Eric M. Anderman



# New Resource for School Leaders!

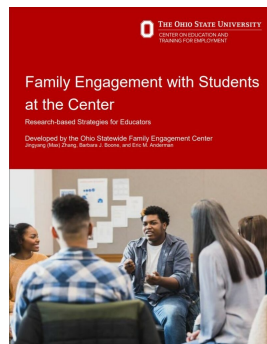




## Reflections

Use this reflection tool to collaborate with your team to identify currently aligned practices and opportunities for improvement.

Strategy	Glows What can we celebrate about our current work?	Grows What are our next steps?
1. Gather students' ideas about and feedback on the school's existing family engagement practices.		
2. Empower students to become collaborators and decision-makers in designing and improving the school's family engagement practices.		
3. Engage students as active and equal participants in the school's family engagement practices.		
4. Prepare students and teachers for the reimagined student role in family engagement practices by providing them with guidance and opportunities to practice new skills.		





# Strategy #1: Gather students' ideas about and feedback on the school's existing family engagement practices.



- Survey
- Interview
- Focus groups
- Student Panel
- Events with administrators (e.g., breakfast with the principal)

**\*\*Respond to students' input**



## Strategy #2: Empower students to become collaborators and decision-makers in designing and improving the school's family engagement practices.



- Invite students to decision-making team around family engagement (e.g., action teams)
- Student Councils

\*\*Translate into actual changes



## Strategy #3: Engage students as active and equal participants in the school's family engagement practices.



- Student-family-teacher conferences
- Students designing, naming, promoting, and implementing family engagement events
- Students as liaisons, inviters, guides, performers, presenters...



## Strategy #4: Prepare students and teachers for the reimagined student role in family engagement practices by providing guidance and opportunities to practice new skills.



- Student leadership organizations
- Professional development for both students and school staff
- Multidisciplinary school professional groups





# Student Voice

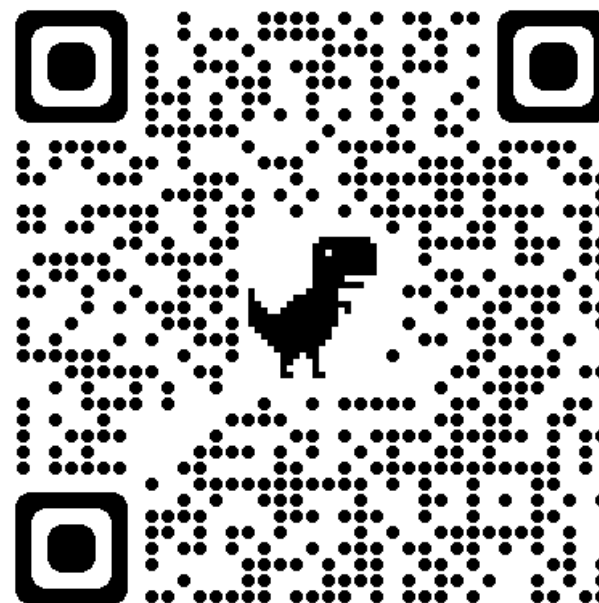
Our student voice project offers articles and presentations educators and others can use to strengthen student voice in family engagement. Visit this page for updates from a new research study and for new resources created by our team.

[Learn More](#)



# Article coming this summer!

## Spring/Summer 2024 Issue



# Learning Objectives



1

Explain the ways in which student voice is linked to positive student outcomes.

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Being planning for including student voice in leading, planning, and/or practicing family engagement.



**Thank you!**





# OhioFamiliesEngage.osu.edu



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**Family  
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—at The Ohio State University—



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