

## NEXT STEPS

My next steps would be to select 1 or 2 realistic, but short actionable suggestions that I can help with. Work on figuring out how I can implement those changes. I would follow that up with additional communication to parents. Eventually I would love to add more schools to this as well. I would host one or two most listening sessions or other type of sessions throughout the year.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my husband for his never ending support for all the things I get involved in. My kids for being patient with me and allowing me time to work on this project. I would also like to thank the Principal at Kinder, Stephanie Hager for her support during this project. My fellow PTO moms who picked up the slack for me this year so I could focus on this project as well.



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

## Family Connection Circle



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY/Ohio Statewide  
Family Engagement Center

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## INTRODUCTION/NEED ADDRESSED

Family engagement plays an important role in fostering student success and building strong school communities. Many families feel they lack opportunities to share their perspectives or feel unheard in school decision-making processes.

To help foster this need, I will implement a family listening session designed to create open communication between parents and school leadership. This initiative will provide a welcoming space for families to ask questions, share concerns, and contribute to meaningful dialogue. With parents voices and feedback, we can strength trust with the school, increase engagement, and ensure families feel valued as active partners in their child's education.

## GOAL and OBJECTIVES

The goal of this project is to increase family engagement with at least 10 parents in attendance and use pre-and post-event surveys to ensure parents feel heard and were able to voice concerns.

This will be accomplished by:

1. Awareness & Outreach: Promote the listening session through 2 communication channels to ensure all families are informed.
2. Parent Recruitment: Secure 10 parents to attend the listening session.
3. Pre-Event Survey: Send a pre-event survey out to our parents to identify topics of interest.
4. Structured Listening Session: Host a listening session that includes discussion and parent sharing time.
5. Post-Event Feedback: Collect post-event feedback within a week from at least 75% of participants.
6. Follow-up & Communication: Within two weeks provide families with a summary of key themes and next steps.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DESCRIPTION

### May 2026

- Decide on survey questions.
- Send out survey to Kinder parents.
- Have Kinder Principal send out survey on her end as well.

### June 2026 - August 2026

- Review survey results.
- Come up with topics to discuss at listening session.
- Share survey results with principal.
- Share topics to discuss with principal.
- Decide on listening session date and time.
- Make flyers and social media graphics.
- Make posts for the event on Facebook and PTBoard.
- Ask Kinder principal if she can send out something once they are back in the building (end of July).

### September 2026

- Host listening session by mid-month.
- Send out post-event survey.
- Start reviewing survey results.

### October 2026

- Finish reviewing survey results.
- Write up a summary of key themes and set up another listening session.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The expected outcome is that parents will feel heard, valued, and more confident in communicating with school leadership. This will lead to increased trust, stronger relationships, and a willingness to engage in future school initiatives.

## EXPECTED CHALLENGES

Low parent attendance:  
With busy schedules, lack of awareness, or feeling disconnected from school this could be the biggest problem I face.

Limited parent participation:  
Parents may feel uncomfortable speaking up especially with the principal there.

Difficulty turning feedback into action.  
I may not be able to do anything on my end and the principal could also run into that same issue.

Lack of diverse representation:  
We are a very diverse district, but a lot of those parents do not attend things, which can limit perspectives.