

NEXT STEPS

Changes

- Create leaflet to place in local libraries for families before the school year begins to build awareness early.
- Develop community partnerships to help spread information and encourage participation.
- Develop summer initiative for Pre-K parent proactive engagement.
- Advocate for district-wide restorative family engagement initiatives to ensure ongoing support beyond a single school.

Maintenance

- Continue Family Engagement workshops
- Build strong school-community partnership
- Create social network platform for parent engagement information and communication support.



SCHOOL FAMILY
RESTORE AND CONNECT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to give a big thank you to the Cincinnati Parent Empowerment Network for mentorship and support. Also thank you to the students, families, administrators, teachers, and staff of the Cincinnati Public School District. Finally, I would like to thank the most important people in my life, my children and family, for their continuous love and support.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

School Family Restore and Connect



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY/Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center**

**Ronshea
Cincinnati, OH**

INTRODUCTION/NEED ADDRESSED

I am a parent leader in the Cincinnati Public School district. As a dedicated parent and active member of my children's school communities, I believe having a partnership between parents and teacher is essential to student success. Having open two-way communication, mutual trust, and shared goals focused on the child's holistic development is priority.

One of the biggest challenges our district faces is a lack in meaningful positive communication. Leaving parents not feeling welcome in our schools, and teachers feeling undermined and unsupported. Ultimately impacting family engagement in our schools. I saw the urgent need to introduce families to restorative practices with the objective of enhancing student achievement through family engagement.

GOAL and OBJECTIVES

The goal of School Family Restore and Connect is to enhance communications and family engagement in students' educational development and success.

This will be accomplished by:

1. Increased awareness: Educate families of the benefits restorative practices can provide
2. Identify barriers: Work collectively to understand why positive connections and engagement is important for student success
3. Strengthen positive communication between student-family-school partnerships
4. Provide support and community resources
5. Motivate and recognize family engagements

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DESCRIPTION

Building Awareness (Weeks 1-3)

- Host a Parent Information session to educate families of the benefits of Restorative Practices.
- Distribute flyers, leaflets, and social media posts with facts and tips on Restorative Practices.
- Work with families on engagement importance.

Identifying and Addressing Barriers (Weeks 3-5)

- Conduct surveys with families on communication and engagement.
- Partner with community organizations to provide resources to families.
- Hold a Proactive Circle.

Strengthening School-Home Communication (Ongoing)

- Provide monthly Family Engagement assignments to families with personalized strategies for improvement.
- Offer virtual meetings via zoom for families needing extra support.
- Implement (Check-list) where parents receive positive direction on engagement in schools and student achievement.

Motivation and Engagement (Weeks 5-6, Ongoing)

- Launch a Family Engagement incentive program.
- Organize quarterly celebrations.
- Develop a stronger School-Family Partnership

Evaluation and Sustainability (Weeks 6-8)

- Gather parent and teacher feedback to refine strategies.
- Advocate for continued school and district support.
- Track School Report card to measure progress and identify areas needing improvement.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Increased Parent Engagement

- Families become more proactive in participating in student achievement.
- Increased teacher morale.

Improved Attendance Rates

- Chronic absenteeism decreased by increased feelings of belonging and safety

Enhanced Student Behavior and Well-being

- Children see parents and teachers working together builds confidence and emotional security.
- Regular communication help to identify potential issues early.

Stronger School- Family Partnerships

- Increased trust among staff, student, and family. Schools and families share responsibility for student success and well-being.

EXPECTED CHALLENGES

Parent & Student Buy-In

- Some parents may not see Restorative Practices as a tool/ benefit.

Identifying & Addressing Barriers

- Some school families face complex challenges (issues involving courts, violence) that required more long-term solutions.
- Diverse views/ maintaining non-judgmental atmosphere.

Sustaining Engagement Over Time

- Funding and resources to incentivise participation
- Low/ Inconsistent attendance