

The 7th Annual Family Engagement
Leadership Summit

welcome!

we will begin
shortly...

**Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center**

For Every Child, Every Family, Every School

Before the Bell

In the chat, share

- ✓ Name
- ✓ Role
- ✓ Favorite Morning Beverage





Dr. Hadley Bachman
Researcher



Sarah DeShon, M.L.T.
Learning Coordinator



Mrs. Cassie Muller
Assistant Principal



Dr. Tabbetha Greco
Assistant Principal

GUIDING QUESTION



How can Multi-Tiered Family Engagement lead to a systems level change in family engagement?

AGENDA

Within Reach eBook & Institute

Principal Presentations

- Graham Elementary and Middle School
- Bexley Middle School

Q & A

Closing

- Reflection
- Professional Development Opportunities

WITHIN REACH EBOOK



Every family is within reach with Multi-Tiered Family Engagement.

Within Reach Institute

Foundations of Family Engagement

Day 1



Strong Foundational Knowledge
and Skills in Family Engagement
(The Why)

Within Reach Institute



Day 2

Multi-Tiered Family Engagement

Strong Knowledge and Skills in Multi-Tiered Family Engagement
(The What)

Within Reach Institute



Day 3

Launching a Multi-Tiered Family Engagement Plan

Ready to Launch Multi-Tiered
Family Engagement in Setting
(The How)

KEY TAKEAWAYS Institute



I loved hearing the real-world examples of ways other buildings/districts are engaging families and how "engagement" doesn't always mean "partnership". The **time to discuss and reflect was invaluable.**

Taking the time **to create an actionable plan was invaluable** in addition to the insightful readings that provided framework for our learning.

Tangible **plans to walk** away with.

I can honestly say the PD has **immense value and applicability**. This is one of the few PD opportunities I've attended where **I feel energized and ready to implement** and expand what I've learned this week. Thank you!

Welcome Cassie and Tabbetha to
Before the Bell!

Welcome Cassie!



Graham Elementary and Middle School



District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal

Location (city, county, state):

Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio

Size (# of teachers/students):

Approximately 45 staff and 315 students

Grades Served:

Kindergarten - 8th grade

Typology (urban, suburban, rural, small town):

Urban public charter school

Fun Facts:

Historic 1908 building • The first Junior High School in The World • EL Education School



Graham Elementary and Middle School

District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



Challenge:

Families sometimes learned about academic or behavioral concerns only after they became urgent.



- Families felt surprised
- Teachers had to organize support/ additional assignments reactively.
- We lacked a consistent system for early communication and partnership.

Graham Elementary and Middle School

District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



Our goal is to create a proactive, predictable system so families understand what students are learning, how students are progressing, and how they can help before a concern becomes a crisis.

TIER 1 ALL FAMILIES	TIER 2 SOME FAMILIES	TIER 3 INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES
● ACADEMIC Gryphon Weekly ● Weekly learning, assessment dates, resources, and realistic ways to support at home. ● CULTURE + BEHAVIOR Universal access ● Gryphon Weekly culture updates plus family access to student Behavior Support/Kickboard data.	● ACADEMIC Assessment follow-up ● Prompt outreach when proficiency is not yet demonstrated: name the target, matched practice, school support, reassessment date, and invitation for family insight. ● CULTURE + BEHAVIOR Early family call ● At 6 marks, the assigned teacher calls to share the pattern and positives, explain what must change, and invite family partnership.	● ACADEMIC Coordinated plan ● Conference when concerns span multiple targets or classes; agree on supports, owners, communication, and follow-up. ● CULTURE + BEHAVIOR Individualized plan ● After Reset Day #2 / 18 marks: family conference, a two-week Check-In/Check-Out plan, and coordinated team follow-through.

Graham Elementary and Middle School

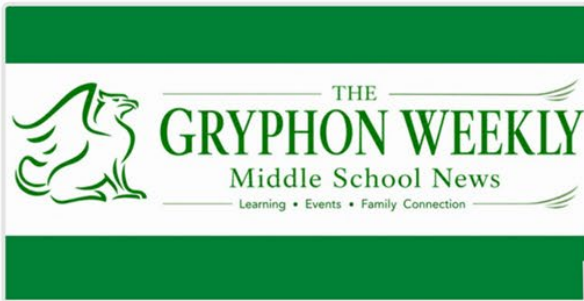
District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



THE GRYPHON WEEKLY

A weekly window into school — and an invitation to connect at home



Supporting Your Student

Starting the Year Strong: What Does My Student Need to Know?

The beginning of the year is all about building strong routines! You can help your student prepare by making sure they:

- Bring a backpack, water bottle, and writing utensils each day.
- Arrive ready to turn in their phone during Crew.
- Get plenty of rest before school.

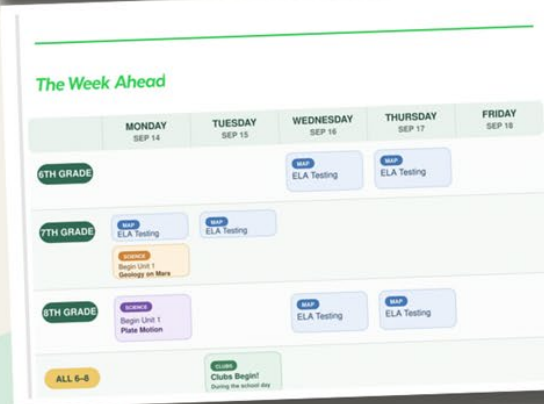
Chromebooks will remain at school so they are ready for students each morning!

Our 5 schoolwide rules are:

- We always walk in the building.
- We keep our hands, bodies, and objects to ourselves.
- We stay where we are supposed to be.
- We put phones and electronics away during the school day.
- We communicate using school-appropriate language.

Ask Your Gryphon

"What was one moment from your first day that made you feel excited for the year ahead?"



Humanities: Students will begin reading *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*, finishing chapters one and two. They will start to apply their foundational knowledge of Greek mythology to deepen their understanding of the text. Students will also complete MAP Testing this week.
Math: Unit 1: Area and Surface Area - We are continuing our learning about finding area and strengthening our mathematical reasoning skills. Students will practice using different strategies to find area while explaining their thinking and showing how they know their solutions make sense.
Science: We are continuing our learning about cells and exploring how they connect to the human microbiome. Students will investigate how cells, microorganisms, and body systems work together to help keep our bodies functioning and healthy.
[Explaining the Human Microbiome at Home.](#)

7th Grade

Humanities: Students will begin reading their first novel, *A Long Walk to Water*. As they read, they will learn about the geography and history of South Sudan and examine how setting and conflict shape the characters' experiences. Students will also complete ELA MAP testing this week.

Math: Unit 1: Scale Drawings - We are continuing our work with scaled copies. Students will identify relationships between corresponding parts of figures, use scale factors, and explain how they know whether two figures are scaled copies. This work strengthens the proportional-reasoning skills students will use throughout the year.

Science: Students will begin the *Geology on Mars* unit. They will take on the role of planetary geologists, examining images and data from the surface of Mars to investigate what may have shaped the planet's surface in the past.

8th Grade

Humanities: Students are diving into their first novel, *Summer of the Mariposas*. Students will build some understanding of Latin American geography, culture, and folklore to better understand the characters' journey. Students will complete ELA MAP testing this week.

Math: Unit 1: Rigid Transformations and Congruence - Students will begin exploring translations, rotations, and reflections. They will describe how figures move on a coordinate plane and use transformations to determine whether two figures are congruent.

Science: Students will begin the *Plate Motion* unit. They will investigate how Earth's surface has changed over time and examine evidence such as fossils, rock formations, and patterns in land features.

Tier 1: Universal Support for All Families

Families receive clear, predictable information before concerns arise.

- Weekly Gryphon newsletter
- Learning targets, important dates, and family resources
- Skills Lab check-ins, practice, and reassessment support

Graham Elementary and Middle School

District: The Graham Family of Schools

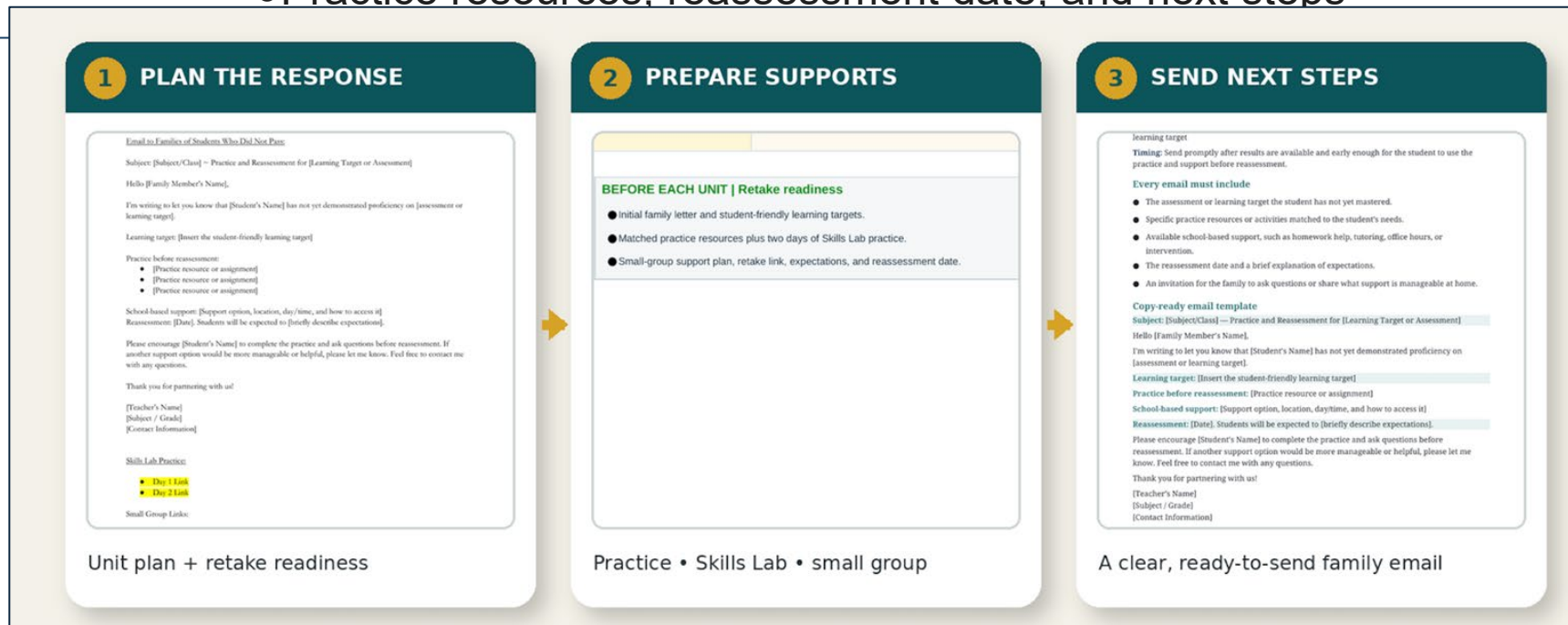
Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



Tier 2: Targeted Communication

Families receive direct outreach when a student has not yet met a learning target.

- Timely email after an unmet learning target
- Clear explanation of the concern and available support
- Practice resources, reassessment date, and next steps



Graham Elementary and Middle School

District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



LOOK ACROSS CLASSES

DATE:

Teachers present:

	Math	Science	Humanities	Art or PE
L.T. grades				
Missing assignments				
HT Grade(s)				

Learning targets • missing work • course grades

PLAN WITH THE FAMILY

Bright Spots and Strengths	*
Academic Concerns	*
Behavioral Concerns	*
Proposed Solutions	*

Strengths • concerns • proposed solutions

Tier 3: Individualized Partnership

Families and staff develop a coordinated plan when concerns become more significant.

- Invited family conference with a consistent point person
- Individualized academic and/or behavior support plan
- Progress review after four weeks—with the date set in advance

Graham Elementary and Middle School

District: The Graham Family of Schools

Name: Cassie Muller, Middle School Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal



How We Introduced the Plan to Staff

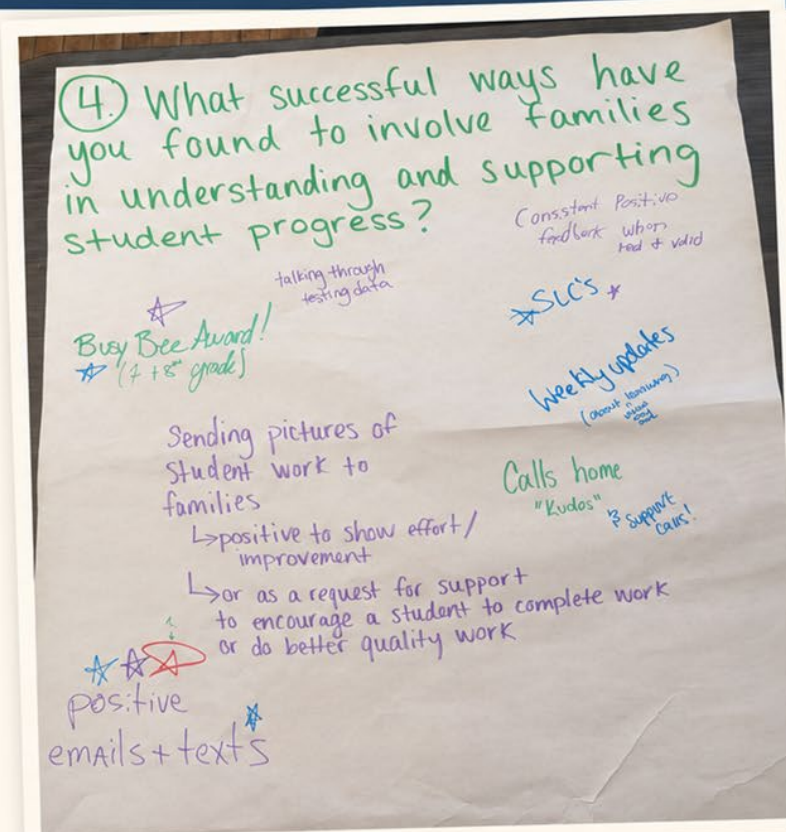
1 Step into the family's perspective

2 Build a shared why

3 Learn the three tiers

4 Turn the plan into practice

Staff analyzed surprise scenarios, shared successful practices, sorted situations by level of support, and prepared family-facing resources.



Family partnership is built before the crisis.

Welcome
Tabbetha!



Bexley Middle School

District: Bexley City Schools | Assistant Principal: Tabbetha Greco, EdD



LOCATION

Bexley, Ohio

Franklin County



GRADES SERVED

6 - 8



STUDENT BODY

644 Students

Enrolled for 2026-2027



TPOLOGY

Suburb of Columbus

Suburban District



OUR MISSION & VALUES

"Learn with Curiosity. Demonstrate Kindness. Embrace Equity."

Core Values: Equity, Inclusion, Respect, Well-being, Empathy, Integrity, and Responsibility

Bexley Middle School

District: Bexley City Schools | Assistant Principal: Tabbetha Greco, EdD



Family Engagement Plan: Middle School Transition

Measurable Goals for Students: • 95% of students feel prepared for the transition (homeroom survey) • 95% report a sense of belonging in the first quarter

Tier 1: All Families

- Map of the school & video tour guide
- Introduce and connect to parent mentor
- Course guide with choices
- "Launching your middle schooler" handout
- Family "walk your schedule" participation
- School counselor welcome email/video
- Home conversation starters (picture books/articles)
- "Remember when" school story sharing space
- Student-made location guide videos
- Option to join a Tier 2 group
- Scavenger hunts & mini lions school visits

Tier 2: Groups of Families

- Direct provider email and outreach
- Sensory schedule pick up sessions
- Emailed and paper schedule distribution
- Smaller group tours and transition sessions
- Student interest gathering for connections
- Proactive outreach for IEP families
- Worry-based groupings to provide targeted peer/team support
- Older student letters (504/gifted experiences)

Tier 3: Individual Families

- Collaborative, family-built transition plans
- Early private tours and site visits
- Multiple pre-meetings to ensure voices are heard
- PBIS alignment, positive story sharing, and personal event invitations
- Pre-meeting prep & collaborative agenda building
- Continuous, tailored resource sharing
- Curated list of summer connection opportunities

Bexley Middle School

District: Bexley City Schools | Assistant Principal: Tabbetha Greco, EdD



Tier 1 Roles for Families

- **Providers:** Enrollment info, survey of what they need
- **Receivers:** By email/school events
- **Initiators:** By volunteering to be tier 2
- **Co-Designers:** Shared leadership, host hang out spots
- **Evaluators:** Surveys to families, anonymous drop box

Tier 2 Roles for Families

- **Providers:** Telling their child's story
- **Receivers:** Contact information
- **Initiators:** Communicate opportunities/process to connect with admin/team
- **Co-Designers:**
- **Evaluators:** Feedback around schedule pick up & first day

Tier 3 Roles for Families

- **Providers:** Sharing background and interests of student
- **Receivers:** Community resources
- **Initiators:**
- **Co-Designers:** Creating Agendas and predictable meeting schedule
- **Evaluators:** Verbal feedback (building systematic channels). Participation of DLPTO



Q&A



A *sweet* resource for school leaders



Download our e-Book at no cost:

**Within Reach:
Multi-Tiered Family Engagement**

Every family is within reach

go.osu.edu/withinreach





THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

Build a family engagement plan that puts every family *within reach.*



JULY 20-22, 2027

CETE at
The Ohio State University



For principals +
one staff member

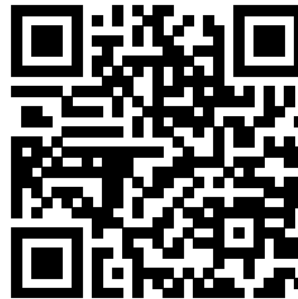


Leave with a **multi-tiered**
family engagement plan
built for your school



**APPLICATIONS
DUE JUNE 9**

Space is limited



APPLY NOW →

go.osu.edu/withinreachinstituteapp



Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center

Find tools, resources,
and strategies you can
use immediately.



— Scan to explore: —

Visit: ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu

Professional Learning

Build your knowledge and skills for family engagement

[ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/
professional-learning](https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/professional-learning)



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT



News & Guidance

Stay connected by signing up for our newsletter

[ohiofamiliesengage.osu.
edu/newsletters-2/](https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/newsletters-2/)



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT



contact us

ohiosfec@osu.edu

LinkedIn | ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

CENTER ON EDUCATION AND
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

The contents of this presentation were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Department). The Department does not mandate or prescribe practices, models, or other activities described or discussed in this document. The contents of this presentation may contain examples of, adaptations of, and links to resources created and maintained by another public or private organization. The Department does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of this outside information. The content of this presentation does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department. This publication is not intended to represent the views or policy of or be an endorsement of any views expressed or materials provided by any Federal agency. [89 FR 70333, Aug. 29, 2024]

The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center at The Ohio State University is committed to freedom of expression and intellectual diversity. The university invites speakers from a range of backgrounds who express a variety of viewpoints. The speakers invited to this summit are individuals who do not speak on behalf of The Ohio State University, the Center on Education and Training for Employment, or The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center, and any opinions they express are their own.