

The 7th Annual Family Engagement
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

welcome!

we will begin
shortly...

**Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center**

For Every Child, Every Family, Every School



Center for
Family Math

**The Family Math Playbook:
Infusing Family Math into
your School or Organization's Programming**

**September 18, 2026
11:00am-12:00pm**

NAFSCE Mission + Vision



OUR MISSION

Advancing high-impact policies and practices for family, school, and community engagement to promote child development and improve student achievement.

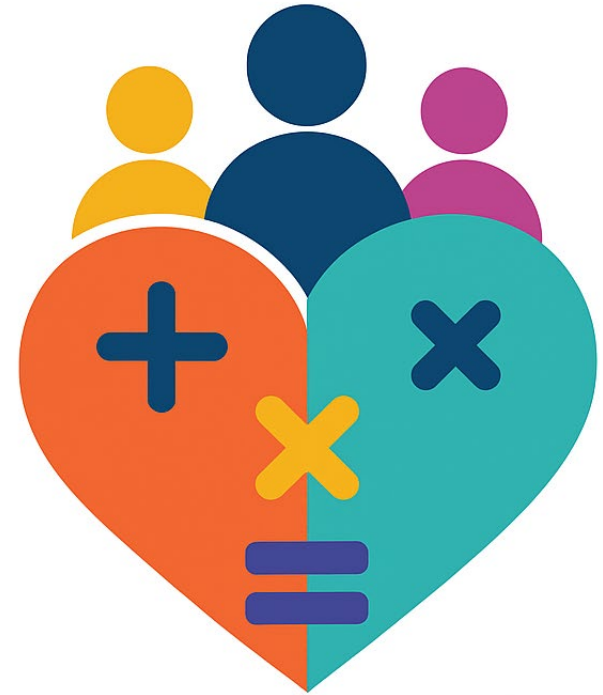


OUR VISION

A world where family engagement is universally practiced as an essential strategy for improving children's learning and advancing equity.

Mission

Unlocking the power
and joy of math
through family and
community
engagement



FAMILY MATH

How many?





“We define **Family Math** as culturally-relevant math activities and interactions occurring within the informal contexts in which families engage with children and youth” (Eason, et al, 2020)

What is Family Math?

- It's more than just numbers
- Starts early in life
- Happens everywhere
- Culture and context matter



What is Family Math?

For Families

- maintaining high expectations for math learning
- engaging in math talk and activities in the home and community
- advocating for and connecting to math experiences in the community



For Educators

- opening doors to families to ensure access to resources and ideas
- elevating and expanding the math that families do
- building relationships around math in the community

Why Focus on Math?

Math skills matter for academic and life success

Kindergarten Entry

3rd & 8th grade

Early reading skills
reading achievement

Later

Early math skills
math achievement

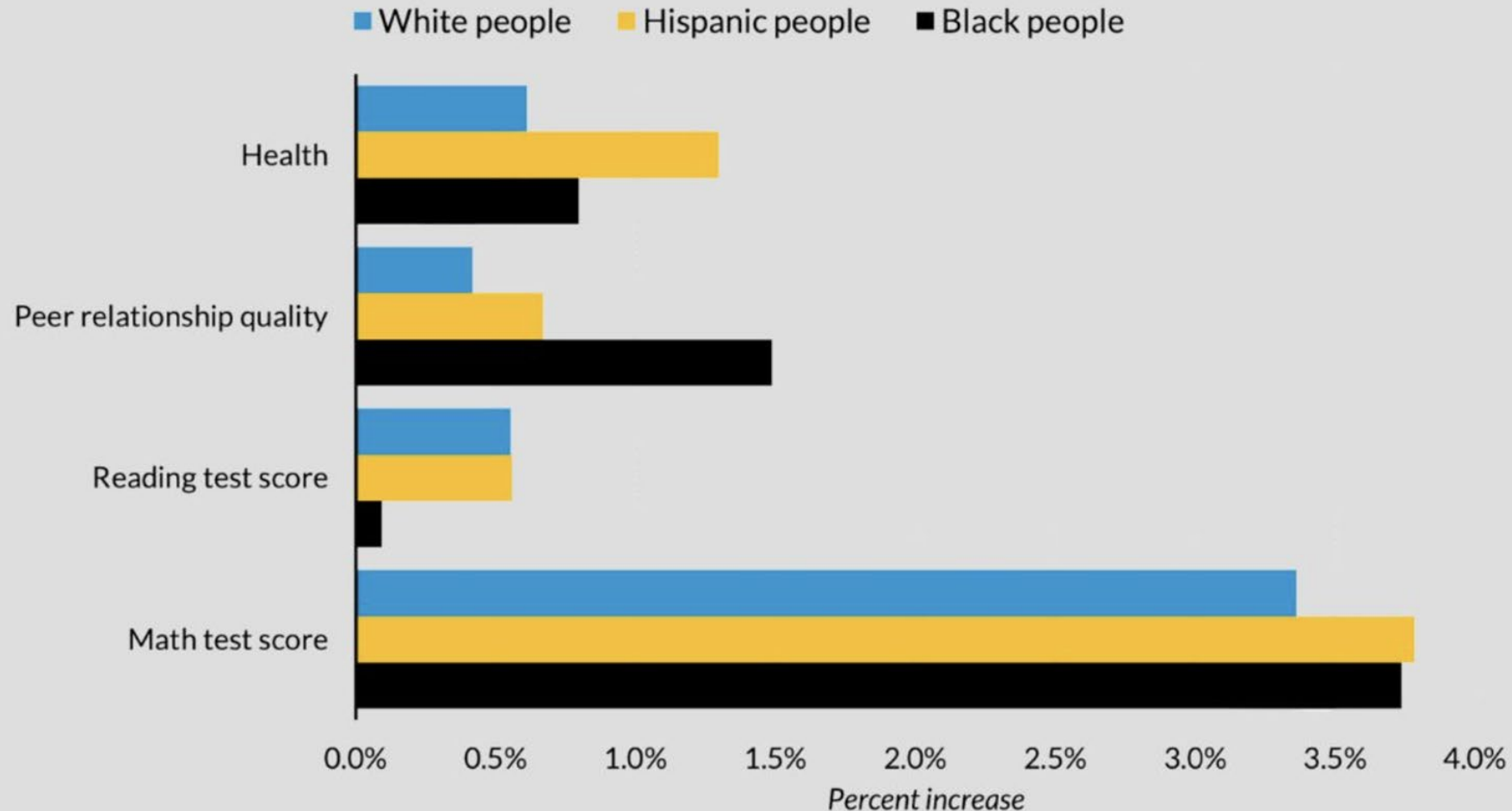
Later

*Duncan, et al
2007*

Why Focus on Math?

Math Skills Matter for Adult Earnings

Predictive Factors from Middle Childhood for Increase in Earnings at Age 30



*Urban
Institute,
2024*

Why Family Math?

It matters for children's math learning

Four Types of Family Engagement Matter for Math Learning

1

High parental expectations



2

Family involvement with
child's school

3

Parents' use of math
talk with their children

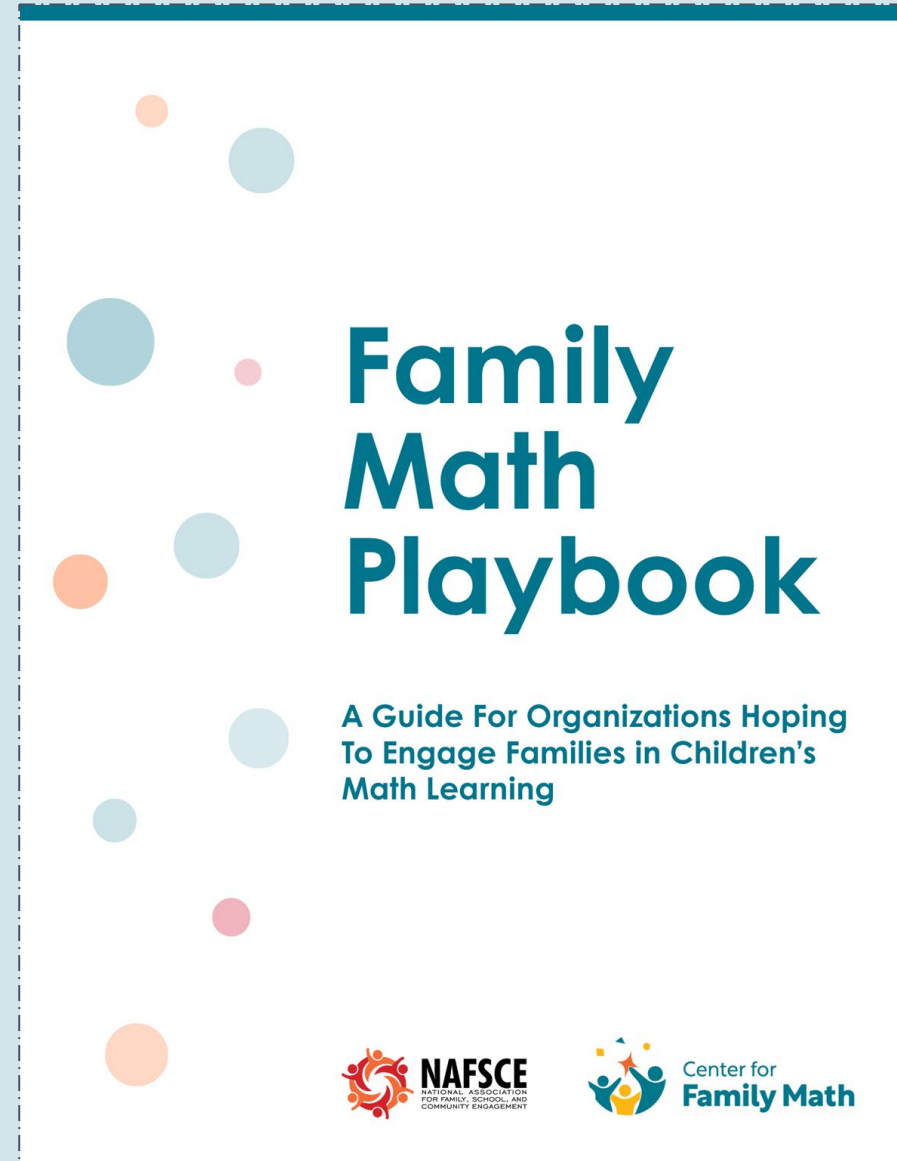
Quality home learning
environment (including
books, games and
puzzles)

4

Family
engagement in
math learning
enhances their
skills, knowledge
and positive
attitudes towards
math and learning



Engaging Families in Math in Four Stages



Family Math Playbook

Goals of the Playbook

- Infuse family math into your ongoing programming and institutional structure
- Build shared understanding, strengthen capacity, and guide strategic action
- Reflect, plan, and implement family math efforts to align with your organizational mission, elevate family voices, and advance equity.

Four Stages of Family Math Programming

1. Reflect and Plan
2. Connect and Build Capacity
3. Design, Implement and Collaborate
4. Lead, Learn, and Sustain



Reflect and Plan



Definition

Organizations get up to speed on current family math research and practice, situate family math within their mission and vision, and assess staff and family capacity for family math strengths and needs.



Example

Jayashree Sonti, Co-Founder
The Early Math and Language Initiative (EMLI)





Mission

EMLi creates and supports evidence-based intervention programs in math and language skills development for families of children in under-resourced communities.

Approach

Young children and families gather after school for 16 weeks. They have whole group and one-on-one fun math activities and a shared meal with their families and others..

[Read a Blog about EMLi here](#)



Our History

Extensive research and Outreach to school's and communities.

Conducted one pilot in a Head Start School in Lewiston, ME, with positive outcomes.

Fall 2024 opened a new center in housing development and in spring 2025, started a third center.

2020-2021

2021-2022

2022-2023

2023-2024

2024 -2025

2005-2026

Organizational and curriculum development, and outreach.

Discontinued Fall 2023, program. Spring 2024, partnered with a public school in Lewiston.

Fall 2025 opened 2 new centers, but closed these due to low enrollment. Reopend in Spring 2026.



QUESTION

What mechanisms does your school or district have for learning about educators' and families' math feelings, strengths, and needs around math?

Connect and Build Capacity



Definition

Organizations build the dual capacity of both staff and parents and communicate about family math to build awareness and shared understanding.



Example

Philadelphia School District hosts a 4-part virtual PD series to learn about the research, reflect on one's own beliefs, learn practical strategies for adapting existing classroom activities into family-friendly experiences, communicating with caregivers in ways that reduce math anxiety, and designing joyful, culturally relevant Family Math Nights. Educators practice reframing math as something families already do every day. The district's long-term vision is a "family math ecosystem" where schools, libraries, and community organizations consistently reinforce positive messages about math and build a network of family math champions across Philadelphia.

Connect and Build Capacity



Example

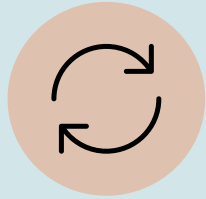
Academic Parent Teacher Teams, developed by WestEd, revision the standard parent-teacher conference by giving parents clear and actionable information about their child's math progress in a group setting.





QUESTION

What opportunities does your school/district provide for educators and families to learn and grow together around family math?



Design, Implement, and Collaborate



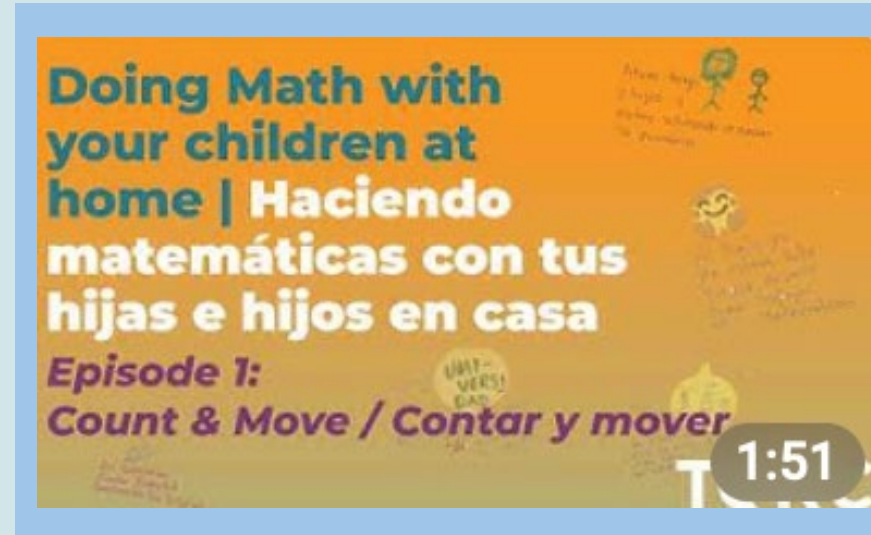
Definition

Organizations co-design and implement family math programming, and activate partnerships for co-design, outreach, and co-leadership.



Example

TERC's **Doing the Math with Families** initiative designed resources *with* families rather than simply *for* them. Families and paraeducators co-design videos and learning materials, ensuring they are practical, culturally relevant, and responsive to families' real experiences. As such, TERC builds stronger resources, greater trust, and lasting ownership of family math.





AUDIENCE QUESTION

Who are the trusted messengers for families in your community, and how might you engage them as family math leaders?

Lead, Learn, and Sustain



Definition

Organizations conduct formative and summative evaluations of their work, develop policies to support their family math practices, and engage in efforts to sustain the work.



Example

Oakland REACH's Math Liberators program equips Black and Brown caregivers to advance math learning in their communities. Through workshops and learning sessions, parents build their own math confidence, deliver high-dosage culturally-relevant tutoring, and advocate for stronger math instruction and equitable opportunities in schools. creating sustainable leadership for math equity.



AUDIENCE QUESTION

How would you know that family math had become part of your district's culture rather than just another initiative?

Reflection and Planning

- What stage best describes your school or organization?
- What example from today's presentation resonated most?
- What is one barrier you are trying to overcome?
- What is one idea you will borrow?





Resources

The Center for Family Math
(familymath.org)

- Family Math Playbook
- Family Math Core Competencies
- Recorded Webinars
- Family Math Toolbox
- Family Math Blog

Welcome to the Center for Family Math

Every student can be good at math and achieve more in school and life when every family can practice Family Math every day. We're the center of making that happen.

Join Us



Stay in Touch!
Social Media!

kreiderh@nafsce.org

Follow Us on

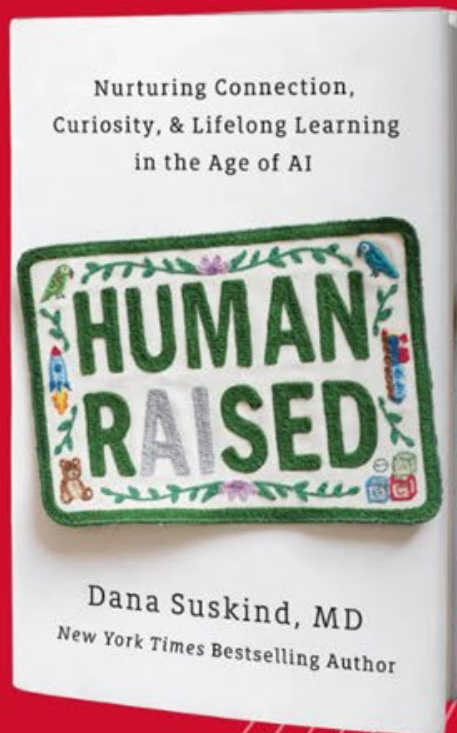


New Webinar Series

Family & Community Engagement and AI

- September 23, 2026, 1 - 2 p.m. ET
- November 2026, TBD
- January 2027, TBD





Dr. Dana Suskind
Founder and Co-Director
TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health

September 23, 2026 / 1 to 2 pm ET

HUMAN RAISED: NURTURING CONNECTION, CURIOSITY, AND LIFELONG LEARNING IN THE AGE OF AI



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
IN EDUCATION

San Diego 2026



Virtual October 26-27
In-person October 28-30

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EngagementAssembly.org

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