

Community Engagement and Partnerships: Engaging Families in Meaningful Ways Facilitator's Guide





Promising Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) Practices Video Series

- The Promising Universal Prekindergarten Practice video series includes interviews with leaders from districts, charter schools, county offices of education, and partner agencies.
- Each video focuses on a UPK Focus Area as described in the Universal Prekindergarten Template released by the California Department of Education (CDE) and the *Universal Prekindergarten Planning Toolkit: A Resource for County Offices of Education in California*.
- The video series describe collaborative partnerships, professional learning models, and strategies and resources to support developmentally-informed practices for UPK.



Promising UPK Practices

Community Engagement and Partnerships: Engaging Families in Meaningful Ways

- Engagement strategies for building strong and effective partnerships with families to help children thrive.

Video Description

- Provides successfully implemented strategies to engage families in the learning experience with their child to strengthen the connection between families and the school.
- The critical components of effective communication and establishing a respectful relationship with families that includes two-way communication is also described in this video.
- Emphasizes the importance of families and their knowledge being utilized as a resource for the school and their child.

Promising UPK Practices



Video Link: <https://youtu.be/WQzHKiLymrl>

Administrator Focused Questions

1. How are we currently involving families in the planning and decision-making processes for our Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program?
2. What strategies do we have in place to ensure equitable access to information and resources for families from diverse backgrounds?
3. How do we assess the effectiveness of our current family engagement initiatives within the UPK program?
4. In what ways do we collaborate with community organizations and local businesses to support family engagement in early childhood education?

Administrator Focused Questions

5. What measures are in place to address barriers to family involvement and ensure that all families feel welcome and valued within our UPK program?
6. How do we communicate the benefits of UPK to families and encourage their active participation in their child's early education journey?
7. What steps are being taken to foster strong partnerships between UPK providers and families, creating a seamless transition into the school environment?

Administrator Focused Questions

8. How do we gather feedback from families about their experiences with our UPK program, and how do we use this feedback to inform program improvements?
9. What resources are available to support families in understanding their role in their child's education and development, both academically and socially?
10. How do we ensure ongoing communication and collaboration between UPK staff and families throughout the school year?

Teacher Focused Questions

1. How do I currently engage with families to support their involvement in their child's early education experience?
2. What classroom-based strategies have been successful in building strong partnerships with families from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds?
3. In what ways do I involve families in classroom activities and decision-making processes related to their child's learning and development?

Teacher Focused Questions

4. How do I address any challenges or barriers that families may face in participating actively in their child's education?
5. What resources or training opportunities do I need to enhance my ability to engage families effectively in the UPK program?
6. How do I communicate with families about their child's progress and achievements in the UPK program?
7. What role do I see families playing in supporting continuity and coherence between home and school environments for their child?

Teacher Focused Questions

8. How do I collaborate with colleagues and other professionals to ensure a coordinated approach to family engagement within the UPK program?
9. What strategies or resources do I use to encourage ongoing communication and partnership with families throughout the school year?
10. In what ways do I seek feedback from families about their experiences with the UPK program, and how do I use this feedback to inform my practice?



- [Promising Universal Prekindergarten \(UPK\) Practices Video Series Link](#)



Thank you!