FAST Institute of Family Engagement
Virtual Offerings, 2022-23

Session	Audience/Timeframe	Objectives
Introduction to Family Engagement	● Teachers, administrators ● Those new to family engagement ● Family engagement coordinators	● Examine the differences between "involvement," and "engagement"; ● Understand how your own background influences your perceptions of families and your ability to engage families; ● Compare and contrast the roles of Parent Coordinators, Teachers, and Principals in their relationship to family engagement.
Creating a welcoming environment	● Teachers, administrators ● Family engagement coordinators	● Identify elements of a welcoming school climate; ● Explore the challenges and opportunities of family engagement; ● Discuss the ways the 10 values of Families and Schools Together can be helpful in encouraging increased Family Engagement.
Engaging Families Virtually and Other Covid-Era Challenges	● Teachers, administrators, family engagement coordinators ● Those struggling with reengaging families during/after Covid	● To introduce school staff to tangible, practical strategies and expectations for virtual family engagement; ● Explore the challenges and opportunities of parent engagement; ● Explore resources related to attendance, focusing on traditionally marginalized families.
Empowering Families at Parent-Teacher Conferences	● Classroom teachers ● This is particularly effective a week or two prior to parent-teacher conferences	● Examine the concept of "empowerment" and ways that schools are/are not empowering to families; ● Provide concrete strategies and tools to help school staff build relationships with families; ● To prepare ways to empower and engage families before, during, and after parent-teacher conferences.
Strengthening classroom conditions for family engagement	● Classroom teachers ● Administrators	● Understand what family engagement is, and the importance of building relationships with families; ● Assess your current classroom practices as they relate to family engagement; ● Learn hands-on strategies to help build trusting relationships with families.

Family Engagement, advocacy, and power sharing	● Teachers, administrators ● Family engagement professionals ● Anyone invested in empowering parents in a school/district	● Explore concepts of power and trust as they relate to a school community; ● Identify systems and structures for engaging families in school improvement planning and participation; ● Examine the concept of Social Capital and the importance of using social capital to build community.
Bridging Race, Class and Culture and Examining Implicit Bias	● Teachers, administrators ● Family engagement professionals	● Assess your own and your school's beliefs and and actions; ● Explore asset-based and deficit-based perspectives and how they affect educators' actions towards families; ● Identify implicit bias and examine its effects on education, kids; ● Determine how this relates to family engagement and what school staff can do differently.
Collaborating with the community	● Teachers, administrators ● Family engagement professionals ● Anyone invested in engaging more deeply with the community	● Identify assets in the school and community; ● Identify the resources that will help schools engage in community problem solving and building community capital; ● Explore ways to increase connections to community agencies/services to better meet the needs of families in your school; ● Engage in community asset mapping activity to get to know what and who is in your community.
Evaluating and sustaining family engagement practices	● Teachers, administrators ● Family engagement professionals ● Anyone who has been actively involved with family engagement during the school year or is planning on being actively involved in the following year	● Assess the effectiveness of the family engagement activities you have conducted this year; ● Determine whether your school was successful in meeting the goals for student achievement and/or other goals set by you and your school; ● Learn how to monitor the overall strength of your parent engagement practices by conducting diagnostic assessments at the beginning and end of each year.

Cost: $750 per session