



Discussion Dice

Epstein's Six Keys of Family Engagement

Directions: Introduce yourself at your table. Roll the dice. Match the total with the topic below. In 1 to 2 minutes, share an experience that answers the question. It may be an event you experienced, contributed to, or heard about.

Epstein's 6 Keys

- 1 – **Parenting** – How do we get a different answer other than “nothing” when we ask our child what they did at school that day?
- 2 – **Communicating** – How do we increase parent awareness of student activities and school programs?
- 3 – **Volunteering / Participating** – What are some of the challenges of “rallying” and retaining parent/family volunteers?
- 4 – **Learning at Home** – How can we best monitor and support our child’s homework and school projects?
- 5 – **Decision Making and Advocacy** – What are some parents’ rights and responsibilities?
- 6 – **Connecting to Community** – What can we do to do “connect” more with the community around our schools? (Think of public libraries, museums, parks, businesses, non-profits, etc.)
- 7 – **Relationship Building** – How effective is relationship building at your school site? What specifically is being done to create and nurture relationships between family and the school staff?
- 8 – **Diversity** – What languages are spoken/understood on your campus?
How are our smaller “other” languages being included in family engagement?
- 9 – **Honor Families** – Name a way in which the school honors parents as true partners in their child’s education.
- 10 – **Celebrate Student Academic Growth** – When has your child been acknowledged for a “job well-done” for academic growth? The focus here is on “growth” not perfection! ☺

