Families In Schools
Building Partnerships for Student Success

Advisory Committee Meeting for After School Providers in LA County

August 16th, 2019

Mission of Families In Schools

To involve parents and communities in their children's education to achieve lifelong success.

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Overview of Families In Schools

History:

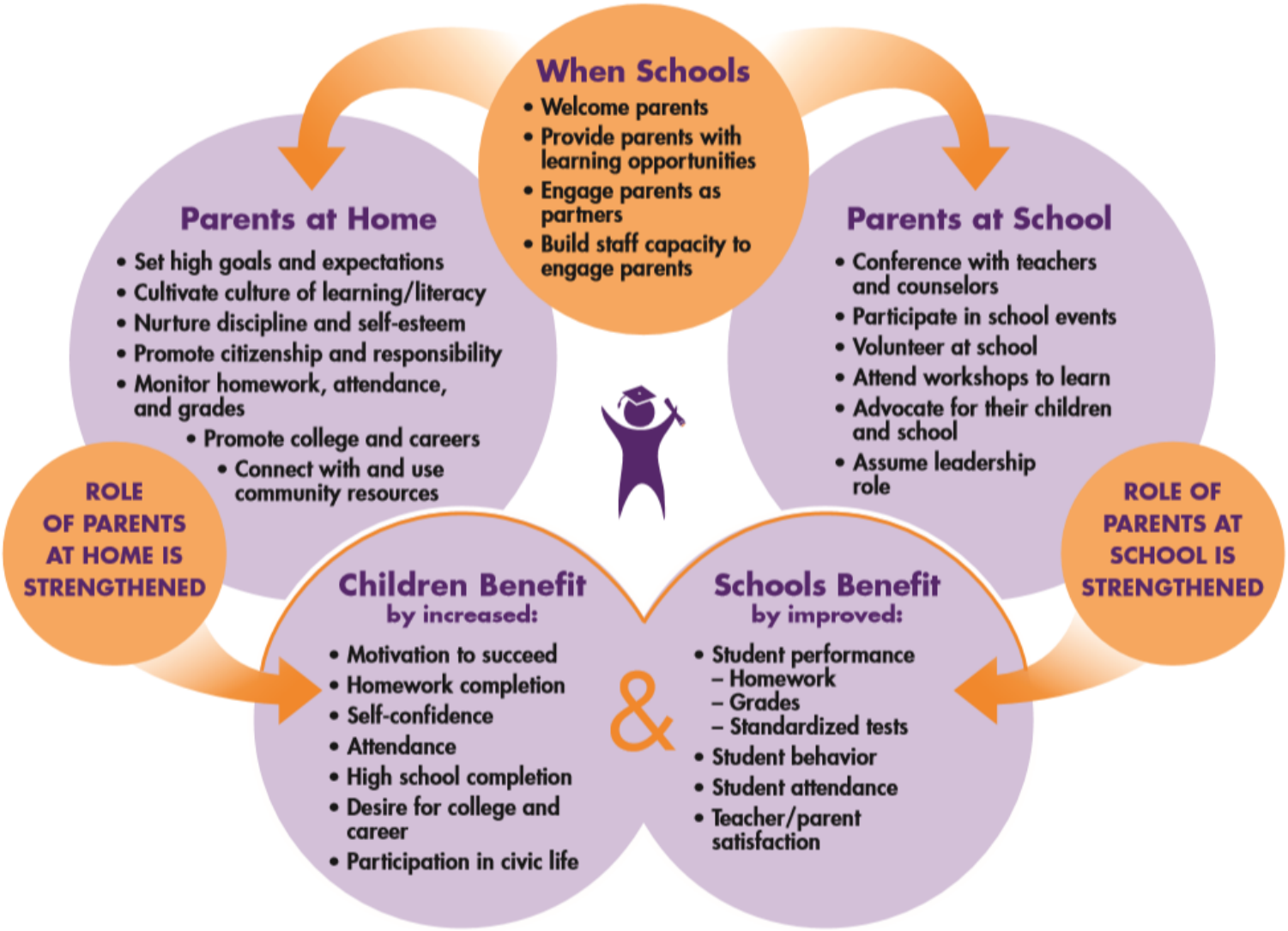
- Families In Schools (FIS) was founded in 2000 as a legacy organization of the largest reform movement in Los Angeles during the 1990s (Los Angeles Annenberg Metropolitan Project - LAAMP)
- LAAMP and a rich body of research reveal that when schools engage families, families get involved and student achievement increases
- FIS was created to deepen the work around parent engagement so that schools, families and communities work together in partnership to maximize and support student learning

Two Major Strategies

- Curriculum/Professional Development & Capacity Building
- Advocacy

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THEORY OF CHANGE



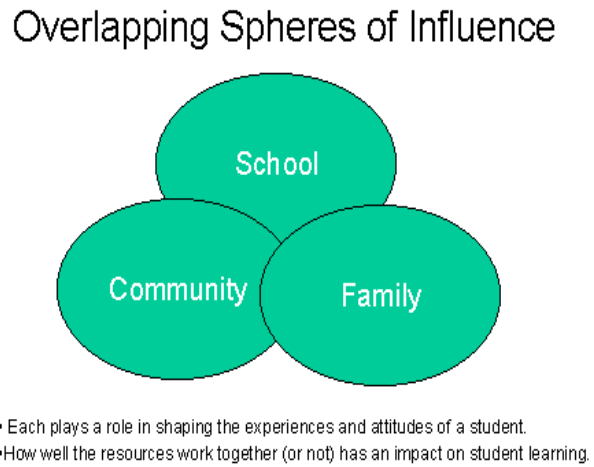
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Parent Engagement Overview and Research

Spheres of Influence

Students learn and grow in three major contexts: the family, the school, and the community (Epstein, Coats, Salinas, Sanders & Simon, 1997). Reciprocal interactions between parents, educators, and community partners help to:

- Establish social ties and exchange information.
- Understand each other's views and appreciate each other's contributions.
- Identify common goals for students.
- Build social capital.



Parent's Influence on Education

When parents are involved in their children's education at home, children do better in school. And when parents are involved in school, children go farther in school — and the schools they go to are better.

- Language Socialization
- Academic Socialization
- Academic Achievement

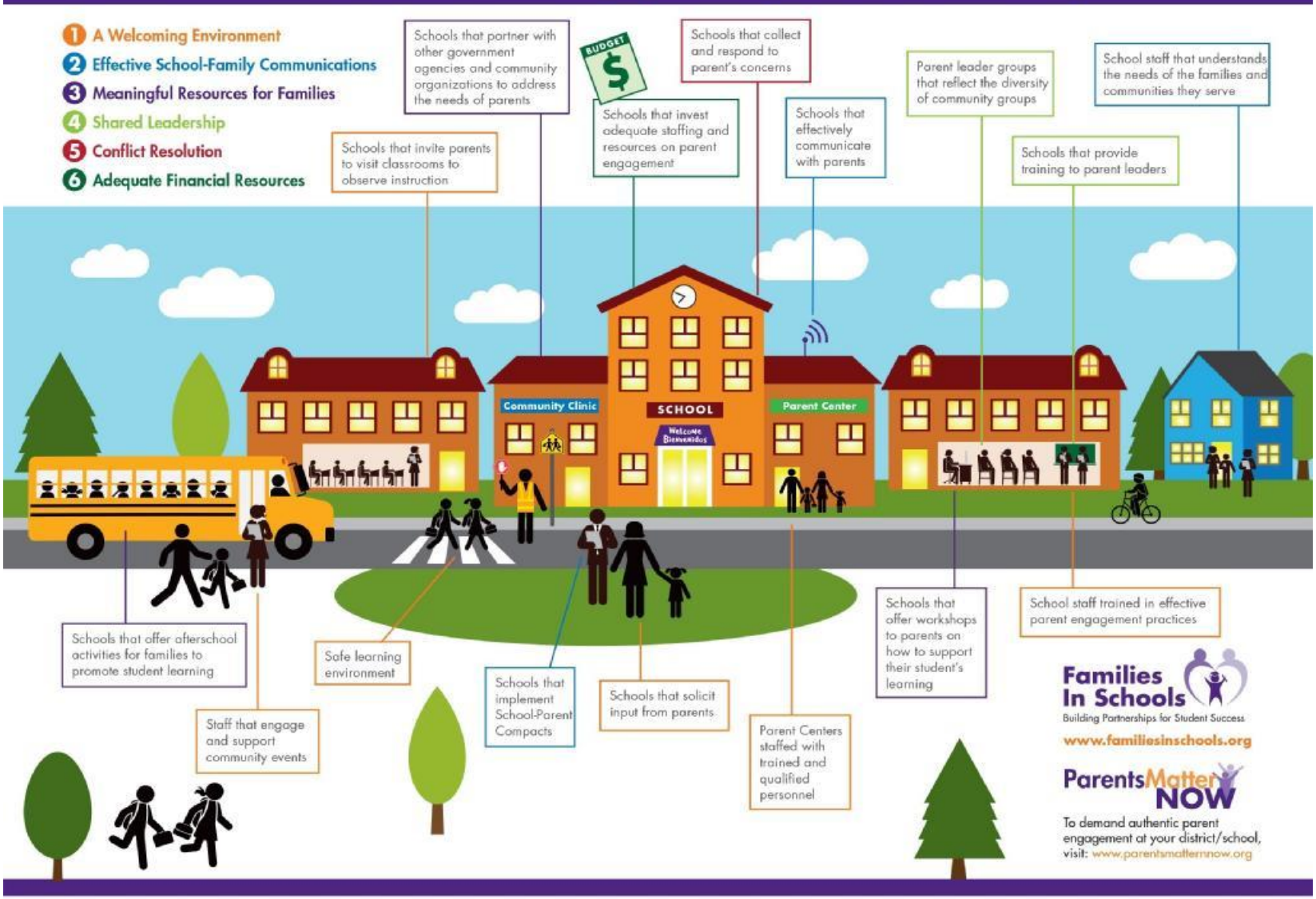
Funds of Knowledge

Funds of Knowledge represent a positive and realistic view of households as containing ample cultural and cognitive resources with potential for classroom instruction (Luis C. Moll).

Core Values

- All parents have dreams for their children.
- All parents/adults have the capacity to support a child's learning.
- Parents and school staff should be equal partners.
- The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home rests primarily with school staff, especially school leaders.

Our Vision for Authentic Parent Engagement (Preschool – 12th Grade)



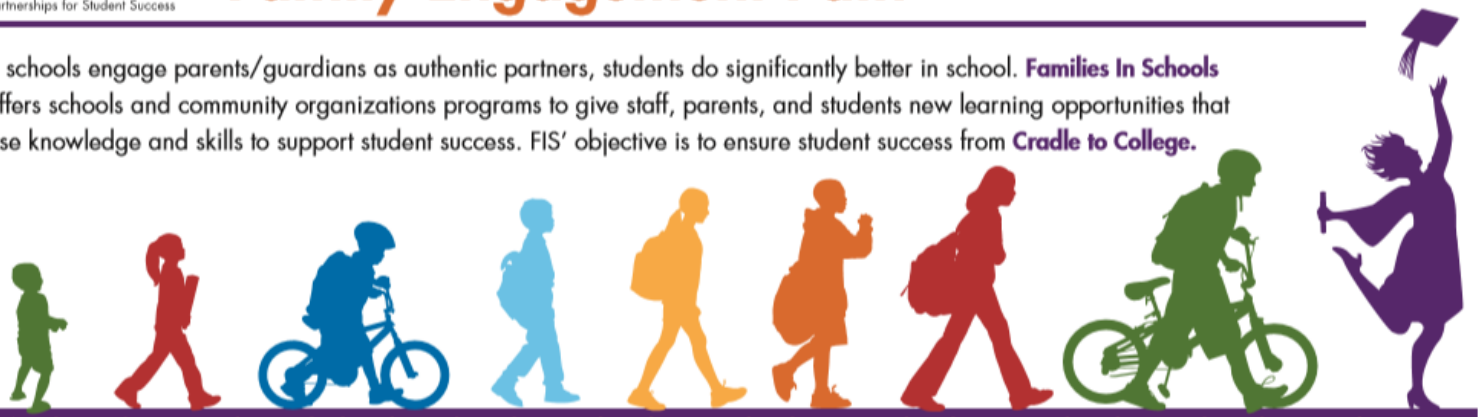
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www.familiesinschools.org

ParentsMatterNOW
To demand authentic parent engagement at your district/school, visit: www.parentsmatternow.org

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Family Engagement Path

When schools engage parents/guardians as authentic partners, students do significantly better in school. **Families In Schools (FIS)** offers schools and community organizations programs to give staff, parents, and students new learning opportunities that increase knowledge and skills to support student success. FIS' objective is to ensure student success from **Cradle to College.**



Age/Grade	Infant –1st Grade	Preschool – 3rd	Kinder – 5th	5th & 6th	6th - 8th	6th – 9th	8th & 9th	5th – 12th	12th - 1st year
FIS CURRICULAR PROGRAMS	READ WITH ME	READING ROADS	STEPS TO SUCCESS	TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL	GROWTH MINDSET	COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE ACADEMY (College Smarts)	TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE ACADEMY (Money Smarts)	TRANSITION TO COLLEGE
PROGRAM FOCUS	Family Literacy	Family Literacy	English Learner Reclassification	Elementary to Middle School Transition and Social Development	Non-Cognitive Skills for Student Success	College Academic Preparation	Middle School to High School Transition and Social Development	College Financial Literacy	High School to College Transition, Financial, Social-Emotional and Academic Adjustment

FIS TRAININGS → **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING**
Trainings for School, District and CBO Staff on Family Engagement and Promising Practices

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE → **CUSTOMIZED SUPPORT**
Tailored Services for Students, Families, Schools, Districts, and Community Organizations

ADVOCACY → **MEANINGFUL ACTIONS AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT**
Elevating the Voices of Families for Quality Education

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Capacity Building Trainings

Parent Engagement Strategies

Learning Objectives:
Participants will enhance their knowledge of, and become familiar with, research-based strategies and best practices that engage parents in authentic and meaningful ways to:

- Support critical academic milestones in elementary, middle, and high school
- Bridge a college-going culture between home and school/agency
- Encourage communication between parents and school/agency staff specific to student success
- Create an environment for effective parent engagement to thrive within their school/agency

Capacity Building Trainings

Welcoming Environment

Learning Objectives
Participants will:

- Become familiar with foundational parent engagement research and best practices
- Increase their confidence in their ability to assess and strengthen their site's welcoming environment
- Explore strategies and practices for enhancing and supporting a welcoming environment at their site

Capacity Building Trainings

Outreach, Recruitment & Retention

Learning Objectives
Participants will:

- Become familiar with foundational parent engagement research and best practices
- Explore strategies and practices for encouraging and increasing parent engagement including:
  - ✓ Importance of building a team
  - ✓ Planning and implementation strategies
  - ✓ Developing communication tools
  - ✓ Tracking results
  - ✓ Debriefing/reflecting
- Increase their confidence in their ability to assess and strengthen their site's outreach, recruitment and retention strategies

Facilitator Training

FIS trainers can train staff (15-30) so that they can facilitate the following training with parents:

- Read With Me
- Reading Road
- Transition to Middle School
- Growth Mindset
- College Knowledge Academy – College Smarts
- Transition to High School
- College Knowledge Academy – Money Smarts
- Transition to College

Direct Service

Curriculum Session - FIS facilitators can facilitate curriculum sessions, for parents, for the following curriculum:

- Reading Road (Three to Four 2-hour sessions)
- Transition to Middle School (Four 2-hour sessions)
- Growth Mindset (Four 2-hour sessions)
- College Knowledge Academy – College Smarts (Five 2-hour sessions)
- Transition to High School (Four 2-hour sessions)
- College Knowledge Academy – Money Smarts (Five 2-hour sessions)
- Transition to College (Six 2-hour sessions)

Direct Service

Parent Workshops - FIS facilitators can provide stand-alone presentations (English or Spanish) on a variety of topics to parents at PreK-12th grade schools and/or events. The following topics are available:

- Attendance Awareness (EE/HS)
- Growth Mindset (EE/MS/HS)
- College Knowledge (MS/HS
- Family Literacy (EE)
- Financial Literacy (MS/HS)
- Career Exploration (MS/HS)
- Understanding Transitional Stages (MS/HS)
- Transition to College (HS)
- How Technology Supports Student Success (EE)
- Building Healthy Parent/Child Relationships (MS/HS)
- Parents' Role in Education (EE/MS/HS)

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