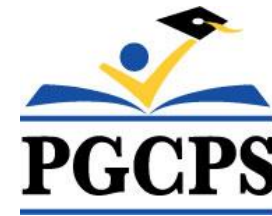


# ParentCamp: Innovative Strategy to Engage Families



National Title I Conference, Long Beach, CA  
(February 24, 2017)

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# WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- **Participants will learn about:**
  - **What is ParentCamp?**
  - **How ParentCamp?**
  - **Why ParentCamp?**
  - **Federal, State, Local  
Collaboration**



## ***Section 1116: District Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy***

a) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY POLICY-

(1) IN GENERAL- A local educational agency may receive funds under this part only if such agency **conducts outreach to all parents and family members** and implements programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents **and family members** in programs assisted under this part consistent with this section. Such programs, activities, and procedures **shall** be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

## EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA) SEC. 1116 (D)

- **(D) USE OF FUNDS**
  
- •(ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.

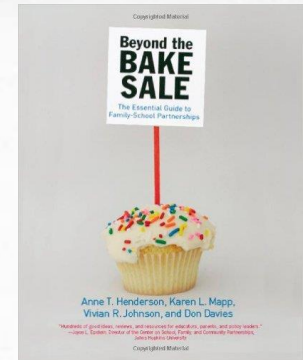


# WHAT IS A PARENTCAMP?

- <http://parentcampusa.weebly.com/what-is-parentcamp.html>
  - Un-conference – parent driven and parent led
  - The four core beliefs (*Beyond the Bakesale*)
  - Discussion leaders
  - Similar to Edcamps



The ParentCamp experience, by design, is a hybrid “un-conference” opportunity for parents, teachers, administrators and community to come together and model the four core beliefs highlighted in *Beyond the Bakesale*.



- **Core Belief 1: All Parents Have Dreams for Their Children and Want the Best for Them**
- **Core Belief 2: All Parents Have the Capacity to Support Their Children's Learning**
- **Core Belief 3: Parents and School Staff Should Be Equal Partners**
- **Core Belief 4: The Responsibility for Building Partnerships Between School and Home Rests Primarily with School Staff, Especially School Leaders**

# DUAL CAPACITY-BUILDING FRAMEWORK FOR FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

The **Dual Capacity-Building Framework** can be used by states, districts and schools to guide their efforts in creating and sustaining family-school-community partnerships to improve students outcomes.

Figure 2: The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships





## The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships

### THE CHALLENGE

Lack of opportunities for **School/Program Staff** to build the capacity for partnerships

### Ineffective Family-School Partnerships

Lack of opportunities for **Families** to build the capacity for partnerships

### OPPORTUNITY CONDITIONS

#### Process Conditions

- Linked to learning
- Relational
- Development vs. service orientation
- Collaborative
- Interactive

#### Organizational Conditions

- Systemic: across the organization
- Integrated: embedded in all programs
- Sustained: with resources and infrastructure

### FAMILY AND STAFF CAPACITY OUTCOMES

#### School and Program Staff who can

- Honor and recognize families' funds of knowledge
- Connect family engagement to student learning
- Create welcoming, inviting cultures

### Effective Family-School Partnerships Supporting Student Achievement & School Improvement

#### Families who can negotiate multiple roles

- Supporters
- Encouragers
- Monitors
- Advocates
- Decision Makers
- Collaborators



# The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



## POLICY AND PROGRAM GOALS

To build and enhance the capacity of staff/families in the “4 C” areas:

- **Capabilities** (skills and knowledge)
- **Connections** (networks)
- **Cognition** (beliefs, values)
- **Confidence** (self-efficacy)



# WHAT HAPPENS IN A PARENTCAMP SESSION?

- Space is designed to put all stakeholders in a circle for face-to-face discussion.
- Discussion centers around what is best for the children.
- Relies on the expertise and perspective of the ENTIRE room.
- There is no main speaker, but rather a discussion leader or facilitator to start the conversation and keep it on track.



# ParentCamp for Title I Schools

## ■ THEMES:

- **ParentCamp: How to help children succeed**
- **ParentCamp: STEM Night**
- **ParentCamp: Improving Literacy Outcomes**
- **ParentCamp: Title I Annual Orientation**
  - **Parent and Family Engagement Plan- District**
  - **Parent and Family Engagement Plan - School**
  - **Use of Title I Parent and Family Engagement Funds**
  - **School – Parent Compact**
  - \_\_\_\_\_



# TABLE DISCUSSION

- **THEME: ParentCamp: How to Help Children Succeed**

Table Discussion: Identify 3-4 topics that you would want to have for the ParentCamp.

# PARENTCAMP THEME

**TOPIC 1**

**TOPIC 2**

**TOPIC 3**

**TOPIC 4**

**TOPIC 5**

# #PARENTCAMP

For more information, go to

<https://www.ed.gov/family-and-community-engagement?src=rn>

- **ParentCamp ToolKit**
- **Blogs on parentcamp**
- **Videos of ParentCamps**

<http://www.parentcamp.org/>

Email [Parent@ed.gov](mailto:Parent@ed.gov) Be sure to include “ParentCamp” in the subject line) or go to <http://www.parentcamp.org/> go to **CONTACT** to fill out form

Follow on Twitter at [@ParentCamp](https://twitter.com/ParentCamp) and [@usedgov](https://twitter.com/usedgov) and use hashtag **#parentcamp**)



# PARENCAMP



For more information about ParentCamp <http://www.parentcamp.org/>





# PARENTCAMP STANDARDS

- ParentCamp is always FREE and open to those within the community.
- Anyone can speak and be actively involved
- Costs for refreshments are offset by sponsors and donations.
- There is student participation which includes opportunities to lead student voice sessions, serving as school tour guides and/or providing childcare among other activities.
- Non-commercial/ no vendors
- Reliant on the “law of two feet”
- Discussion
- Facilitators **guide** the discussion and watches the time



# How ParentCamp?

## ParentCamp International

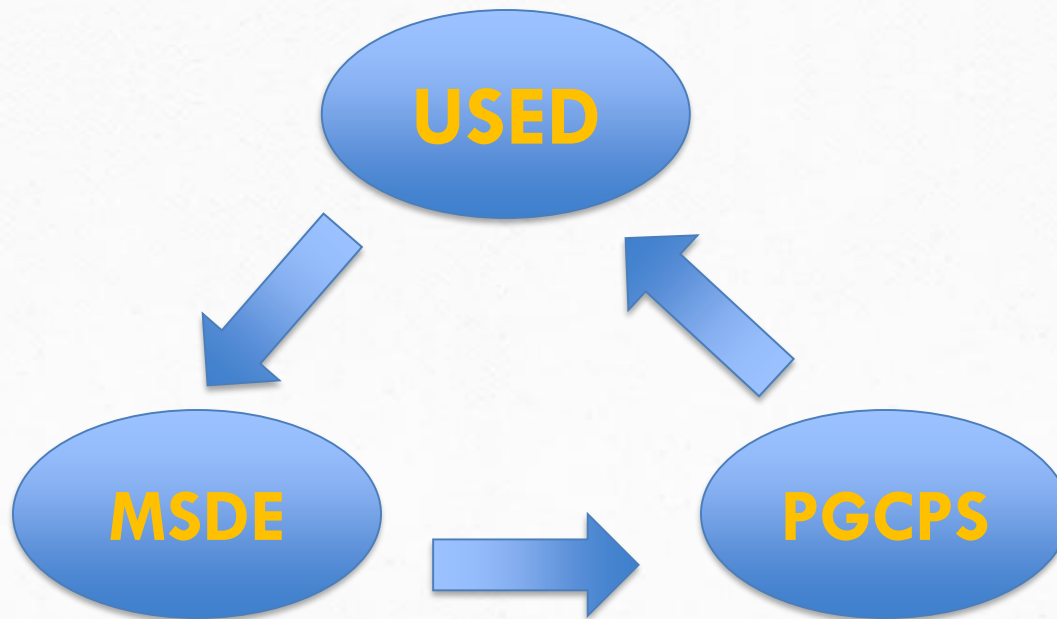
U.S. Department of Education

April 18, 2016



# FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL COLLABORATION

- US Department of Education (USED)
- Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
- Prince George's County Public School System (PGCPS)



# HOW TO START A PARENTCAMP

- **Explore**
- **Plan Your Event**
- **Check the Details**
- **The Big Day!**
- **Follow-Up**



# TIPS FOR ADDRESSING DIVERSITY

- Recognize, learn and affirm all of the cultures in the school
- Connect family cultures to what students are learning
- Work with cultural connectors from the community to connect families to school
- Recognize and support different forms of parent involvement
- Support learning at home
- **Address the language barrier** (written and oral communication)
- Be culturally sensitive
- ‘camp’ doesn’t have the same meaning for everyone



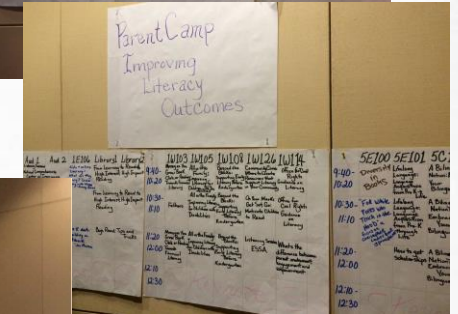
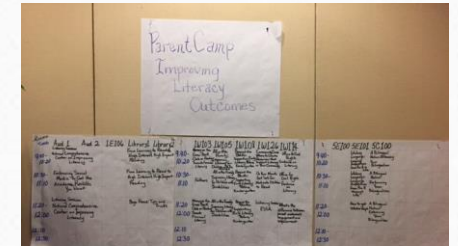


# WHY PARENTCAMP?

## PARENTCAMP: IMPROVING LITERACY OUTCOMES

U. S. Department of Education

October 14, 2016

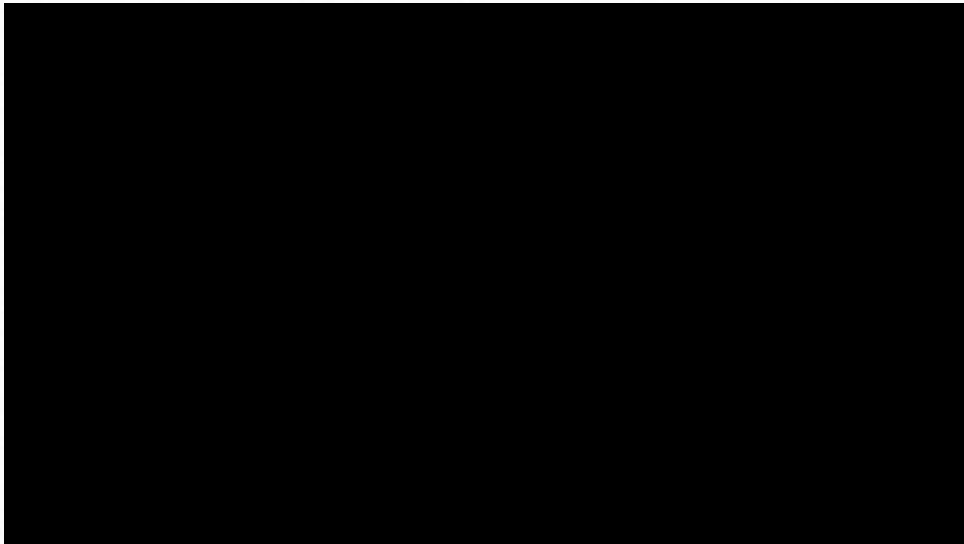




# *Why ParentCamp?*







# CHALLENGES

- Language access
- Bureaucracy in agencies
- Transportation
- Logistics – ex. Of what it took to get EL families register and follow up with details
- Buy-in : we don't know how good something is if we have never experienced it



# LESSONS LEARNED

- **Ask parents – for topics/ for their needs/ strategies**
- **Some structures are needed for PC (sign up topics vs. topics assigned).**
- **Language access is a must.**
- **Collaboration and coordination with different offices yield great buy-in.**
- **Cultural connectors are “must haves” to engage immigrant parents.**
- **Don’t make assumptions about depth of understanding roles of facilitators/monitors.**
- **Know your intended outcomes.**



# PARENTCAMP:

- **THEME: TITLE I**
- **TOPICS**
- **TABLE DISCUSSIONS**
- **SMACK DOWN**



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THANK YOU



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