

The background features a gradient from red at the top to blue at the bottom, overlaid with faint, semi-transparent circular patterns and a scale. The scale on the left side is marked with numbers from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Several circular elements, some solid and some dashed, contain curved arrows indicating a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction.

MYTHS ABOUT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

REGION 16 ESC

TITLE I, PART A PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STATEWIDE INITIATIVE

MYTHS ABOUT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Myth #1: Parents and families in socio-economically deprived circumstances are less interested and less able to support their child's learning.
 - TRUE
 - FALSE

FALSE

- Although families from deprived situations may not possess the “social capital” for networking and may lack experience in the school setting, and they may not have any college training, DO NOT underestimate their desire for their child to be academically successful. These families WANT their children to experience a better life as adults, and they understand that a successful education is critical. Provide practical ideas so they can more effectively help their children.

- The school must nurture relationships with all families and then give them tools to participate in their children's education. These family/school relationships are the foundation for real family engagement... The first step in building lasting and effective family engagement processes in your school or district start with one simple word: **RELATIONSHIPS**. Without them there is no engagement. Steve Constantino

MYTHS ABOUT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Myth #2: The best way for parents and families to be involved in the life of the school is through PTA or PTO.
 - TRUE
 - FALSE

FALSE

- The local PTA/PTO are organizations that can greatly benefit the school. They can provide training to parents and can be a very good place for parents to be involved. But, the key is engagement that leads to making an impact on the child's learning. Schools should provide meaningful opportunities for parents and families to be involved at home and at school so they are better equipped to assist their child.

MYTHS ABOUT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Myth #3: Schools and teachers exhibit the greatest influence on children's learning.
 - TRUE
 - FALSE

FALSE

- Schools and teachers care for children 6-8 hours per day and do have a significant influence upon the child. Nevertheless, the parent continues to be the child's first and **MOST IMPORTANT** teacher. The parents and family establish the values, provide moral guidance, and herald educational expectations that outweigh the school's efforts. Even for secondary students parent interest and active, ongoing support has an enormous influence upon the child's behavior, study habits, and future achievements.

MYTHS ABOUT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Myth #4: Parent involvement and family engagement are expectations that add time and effort to an already overstretched staff with little or no benefit.
 - TRUE
 - FALSE

FALSE

- Building relationships and meaningful partnerships does take some time, but the rewards are tremendous. When parents and families are actively engaged to promote and assist student learning the attendance rate increases, discipline problems decrease, homework completion increases, the graduation rate increases, and school morale improves. It is a WIN-WIN that is worth the time and effort invested by educators and families.

Bilding me a fewchr

Dear Teachr,

Today, mommy cryed. Mommy asked me Jody do you really kno why you are going to school. I said I don't kno. Why? She said it is caus we are going to be bilding me a fewchr. I said what is a fewchr wats one look like? Mommy said I don't know Jody, no one can really see all your fewchr jest you. Don't worry caus youl see youl see. That's when she cryed and sed oh Jody I love you so.

Mommy says every one need to work realy hard for us kids to make our fewchrz the nicest ones the world can ofer.

Teacher can we start today to bild me a fewcher? Can you try espechly hard to make it a nice pretty one jest for mommy and for me? I love you teacher.

Love, Jody XOXOXO

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