



**Iowa 21st Century Community Learning Centers
Family Engagement Committee**

Meeting Notes

March 23, 2022

10:00am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98261573186?pwd=NnBWWHIWRVQxRElvSGRZQmdrZnNTQT09>

Meeting ID: 982 6157 3186

Passcode: 514050

Please mute your laptop/phones as to reduce background noise.

COMMITTEE MISSION: This committee focuses on strategies for family engagement, including identifying and sharing of best practices.

2021-2022 COMMITTEE GOALS:

- Social/Emotional Support. How to best support families going through trauma.
- Communicate to parents in a more personal manner the facts that the out of school time program is designed to be safe, interactive, and meeting their needs as a student and as a family.
- Ideas for engaging families virtually and in-person in a fun and interactive way.
- Revisit and edit or update the Family Engagement Guide to include an expectation section on what the committee can do for you, what is expected of you, and immediate guidance and support.

ROSTER

NAME	SITE/SCHOOL	MARK FOR ATTENDANCE
Bobbie Jo Sheridan	DMPS	
Billy Stone	Oakridge Neighborhood Services	X
Dema Abussaf	South Union	X
Chris Hoover	Maquoketa CSD	
Christine Carlson	Storm Lake CSD	X
John Spinks	Oakridge Neighborhood	X
Fiona Top	Burlington CSD	X
Hilary Huebner	Clinton CSD	
Linda Phillips	Des Moines Public Schools	X
Megan Kruse	Council Bluff CSD	X
Melissa Williams	DMPS	X
Patty Schmidt	Easton Valley/Andrew	
Tricia Anderson	North Fayette	X
Shaney Ford	Davenport CSD	X

Stephanie Stulken	Kids on Course/Cedar Rapids	
Vic Jaras	Iowa Department of Education	X
Britney Appelgate	IAA	X

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item	Notes
ISUEO Presentation	Postponed to a later date.
Review of Communication Tools	N/A.
Review Family Engagement Guide	Vic shared that the guides are meant to be a summary of what the Committees are supposed to do. Shaney reviewed the Family Engagement Guide with the goal of creating a one-pager that grantees can use. The Committee agreed that they should include the ESSA definition of family engagement, examples, partnerships with community colleges, and taking attendance. The Committee also agreed to use the language “family” instead of “parents” to be more inclusive. Vic and Christine shared that a best practice is to share good things about the youth with their parents and to recognize them for good behavior. John suggested that a best practice is using school events, such as culture fairs, concerts, or conferences, to attend and show that the school, afterschool program, and parents are all working together to support the youth. Shaney also mentioned that they use pickup times to talk to parents regularly. Shaney will send out a draft of the one-pager to the group for feedback at the next meeting.
Family Engagement Ideas, Tips, Suggestions	Christine shared a flyer from the After School Arts Program which provides virtual/remote arts classes for out-of-school time programs to use with youth and families. The IAA will share this out with directors. There was also an idea to create a Google Drive where all grantees could post and share ideas. The Iowa Afterschool Alliance will create this resource and share it out.
Recent successes/stories/highlights and obstacles/barriers to success	Billy shared that it has been difficult to get families to participate, likely because they are working. They have had luck with social emotional learning with families. Megan shared that they created spring baskets with family activities and a raffle during conferences. They also did a bounce house event, too. They also sent home cookie decorating kits and it went over really well. Fiona shared that they are hosting family nights in April and May at all of their sites to showcase all they have done throughout the year. They have struggled with families participating at past events though. Billy shared that she really struggles with family engagement because families are not participating. Christine shared that many of the families she serves are needing mental health supports to deal with traumas from COVID. Megan shared that their director is working with the community college to provide literacy support for parents. Shaney shared that the United Way in Davenport is offering online literacy classes in the evenings and it has been really successful.
Other/Open Agenda/Updates	

WORK PLAN

Deadline	Activity	Who's Responsible	Outcome Expected	Notes for Implementation
4/18	First draft of Family Engagement one-pager	Shaney	Draft ready to share with Committee for feedback at next meeting	

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 18, 2022 at 10am.

ADJOURN