

**S. S. Palmer/Parkside Title I Family Engagement Update
for Parents, Teachers, and Administrators
2020-2021**



The State Parent Advisory Council (SPAC) has highlighted the following as ways districts can sustain family involvement and promote student achievement.

- Shared responsibilities among parents, teachers, and administrators can benefit everyone, particularly students.
- Family engagement through cultural awareness and practices allow schools to celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of all families.
- When schools intentionally honor the varied backgrounds and cultures of their families, they can:
 1. support culturally responsive teaching and learning.
 2. creatively strengthen the connection between home and school.
 3. promote parent engagement and involvement through shared responsibilities and inclusion.
 4. create professional development that supports family engagement and student achievement.

5. dispel myths and beliefs about family backgrounds and cultures.
6. eliminate racial disparity by placing an emphasis on diversity and culturally responsive practices.

**Remember to think about the following
when considering individual needs of families.**

- Be sensitive to any language barriers and cultural differences (documents sent home, signage hung during school events, etc.).
- Use careful awareness when commenting and using nonverbal expressions.
- Include family input in professional development sessions.
- Avoid relying on one "super parent" so that others feel invited to participate and provide helpful input.
- Promote effective two-way communication with all families.
- Celebrate cultural differences.

For more information about SPAC visit www.spac.k12.pa.us.

