

ESSA Training Kit

ESSA Requirements for Schools & Parent Involvement

Lesson 1

This kit is the first in a set of four developed from the Annual IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute in 2017 for use in training and technical assistance for school districts to strengthen family engagement.

The first kit is based on a presentation by David Hinojosa, IDRA Director of National Policy, focusing on ESSA requirements for schools and parent involvement.



Welcome and Introduction

Describe goals for the session to train participants on the ESSA requirements for parent engagement.

Have participants introduce themselves and to state one thing they hope to learn more about.



Think-Pair-Share

Have participants talk with each other about what parent engagement means to them and how their school has supported parent involvement.

Report out highlights.



PowerPoint

Show the PowerPoint: ESSA – Family Recommendations to the State. Pause each slide for discussion and input.



Action Pack

Hand out the ESSA Action Pack – Family and Community Engagement Opportunities in the Every Student Succeeds Act. Note that the state and the local school district are required to have plans to improve learning for all students, including poor and minority students and to involve the community in creating those plans. Discuss the items that ESSA specifically calls for:

- Parents serving on peer-review teams to evaluate school district and state education plans,
- Involving parents in creating state report cards,
- School outreach to parents,
- Partnering to create school-parent compacts,
- Family engagement funding, and
- Statewide family engagement centers.

Materials for this kit are online at: <https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>



Small Groups

Create small groups, perhaps by table and have them discuss and answer the second page: “Working Together – Next Steps.” (See box.) Refer to the section “Steps you can take to capitalize on ESSA’s family involvement provisions” for other ideas.

Working Together – Next Steps

Use the following questions as a guide for deciding how you will work together.

- What is happening now? I am most concerned about...
- What needs to happen? I can support by...
- What are some assets in our community? I can contribute...
- During the next three months, I will do the following...
- I will work with:
 - Parents
 - Teachers
 - Administrators
 - School groups
 - Community groups
 - State education agency or committee
 - Other _____



Large Group

Report out and list highlights on the board. Determine if any of the responses or if the participants want to focus on a particular issue and plan follow-up activities accordingly.



Closing

Invite parents to the next session and advise them of the next Annual IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute.

Learn about IDRA’s Education CAFEs – Community Action Forums for Excellence

Grounded in IDRA’s Family Leadership in Education framework, an Education CAFE is a parent group that is rooted in a community-based organization, rather than in a single school. And its sole purpose is to collaborate with schools to improve the success of students in the community. With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, IDRA is establishing a Texas Education CAFÉ Network of community-based family and educator groups that help inform public education policies and practices related to implementation of ESSA.

<https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>

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