LEARNING ROUNDTABLE

Building a Stronger Texas
Activated and Empowered – Families as Partners
Moderator: State Board of Education member
Tom Maynard

Presenters:
Marta Plata, principal of Manuel Jara Elementary School, Fort Worth ISD
David Vinson, superintendent, Wylie ISD
Lacy Wood, principal technical assistance consultant, American Institutes of Research
Ramona Morin Aguilar, director of family and community engagement, Garland ISD
“If we empower the parent, we change the home life. If we change the home life, we empower our kids”... M.Plata
Manuel Jara El. is a TITLE I Campus serving 549 students in grades 1 – 5

The school has MET STANDARD for each of the years of STAAR and has earned Distinctions in Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA and Top 25% Student Progress 2018- Report Card Grade B

- Minority enrollment is 97% Hispanic
- Attendance rate is 97%
- LEP –316 students 58%
- Economically Disadvantaged – 515 students 95%
- Special Education / LINC– 62 students 11%
- Dual Language program – 269 students 50%
Imagine a school that not only prepares children for academic success, but also empowers parents to raise successful children. Course #101
Imagine parents sitting with their kids as they learn together, how to live a more healthy, caring and responsible family life.
Imagine parents coming to school, committed to learn together across all cultures to improve their children’s education. Course #201
Imagine parents coming to school, committed to improve their own education.
Course #301- *Intro to G.E.D*
Imagine building capacity within your community
Course # 401- INTERNSHIP or INGLES SIN BARRERAS
Parent Leadership Academy Graduates Give Back Parent to Parent Learning
COURSE #501- Tarrant County College Partnership
Parent Leadership Academy
Course #601  T3-Tech Together & Triumph
Coming in 2019-2020

Course #701
Money Matters
Diamond Hill Elementary

Woodway Elementary

"The opportunity to grow with the parents in our community was amazing. I learned so many life lessons and built so many new relationships."  Brian Johnson principal of Woodway Elem- MJE congratulates you for your success

Parent University 🎓👏

Bonnie Brae Elementary

Our Parent University was an amazing experience for the parents and the staff that volunteered to facilitate. These parents are now more involved at school and at much more at ease on the campus. We are looking forward to continuing next year. All of our parents that graduated have agreed to come back next year and encourage other parents to enroll.  –Samantha Gonzales principal  BONNIE BRAE ELEMENTARY
Building a Stronger Texas: Long Range Plan for Public Education

Vision by 2030

- An educational system and culture of trust that welcomes and values every family as an active partner by building relationships
- All cultures will be valued and welcomed into the process for student success
- All communication will be fully utilized to engage, empower and connect with all stakeholders
- Systems and resources will be in place to engage, empower and support families as they navigate through the complex educational process
Building a Stronger Texas: Long Range Plan for Public Education

Recommendation

Recommends that school districts and communities build and foster relationships, address differences and support advocacy *in partnership with families*
Partnership Schools: A Design Team Approach
Partnership School

How can we create a space for authentic relationships?

How can we build trust?

How can we build dual capacity?

How can we become a Partnership School?
Dual **Capacity** and **Authentic Partnership**

Four Core Beliefs

1. All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them.

2. All parents have the capacity to support their children’s learning.

3. Parents and school staff should be equal partners.

4. The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home rests primarily with school staff, especially school leaders.

Design Team Approach

- Dual Capacity Building
- Co-create family engagement initiatives
- Open space to share ideas and evaluate data
- Shared ownership
- Voluntary
Building Capacity: Book Study

*Powerful Partnerships: A Teacher's Guide to Engaging Families for Student Success* by Karen Mapp

“What if parents were seen as the leaders, and we (teachers) used our knowledge and expertise to support their end goals.”
– Rachel Medina
Design Team Work

- Harvard Family-School Engagement Survey
- Share your “Why”
- Hopes and Dreams Letter
- Welcoming Walkthrough
- Collect and review data
- Co-create family engagement initiatives