

# Family Engagement

It is important to use a variety of strategies to communicate and engage families. Families appreciate and respond to different ways of communicating.

## The Center for Family Engagement's 4 Guiding Principles of Transformative Family Engagement

Use the ideas below to amplify your reach and ensure every child's potential becomes a reality:

- Embraces and values diverse perspectives
- Meets the unique needs of every family and child
- Connects and aligns with the educational system
- Empowers families to support their child's success

## Non-Traditional Engagement Examples

### **Recipe share**

Ask families to share a recipe, create a recipe book. Have the children do the artwork. Distribute the finished books to families

### **Family Events**

Evening or weekend family workshops or social gatherings such as ice cream socials or learning workshops for the family

### **Family Fun Night**

Send bags home for children to enjoy with family- bags containing puzzles, snacks, and books to read together

### **Virtual Open House**

Providers create short videos and send the links to the families to view all the work their children have completed

## Family Input Examples

### **Volunteer**

In the classroom or program for a one-time event

### **Family Board**

Be active with the program's family board if one is in place

### **Active Inclusion**

Work with parents to allow them to be active in the program on a consistent basis

### **Organize**

Work with the program to organize cleanup/fix up days