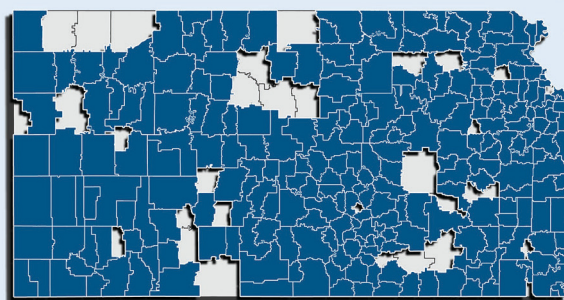


The **Kansas State Department of Education** and the **Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC)** support meaningful family engagement at all levels of education to promote the success of each Kansas child/youth. KPIRC partners with several TASN projects (e.g., Kansas Learning Network, Kansas MTSS and Alignment, and the School Mental Health Initiative) to infuse family engagement strategies into statewide professional development. Staff collaborate at state and local levels to incorporate family engagement into policies for accreditation (KESA); School Redesign; and the five State Board outcomes of Kindergarten Readiness, Graduation Rates, Postsecondary Success, Individual Plans of Study, and Social-Emotional Growth.

EDUCATORS EXPANDED SKILLS

In the 2020–2021 school year, KPIRC provided training, coaching, and/or resources to educators across 177 buildings in 88 Kansas school districts, including supporting educators participating in the Kansas Can School Redesign Project and those implementing a multi-tier system of supports. As a result of training and coaching, educators developed skills to engage families, self-assessed their family engagement practices, and reflected on their knowledge and confidence. Of the 81 training participants who provided feedback,

**256 DISTRICTS RECEIVED KPIRC SUPPORT
OR RESOURCES IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS**



100% agreed that family engagement is critical to students' academic growth, and 99% reported that they could identify methods for sharing data with families on their children's progress.

In response to the needs of educators, administrators, and families, KPIRC collaborated with Families Together, Inc. and the Kansas State Department of Education to provide additional resources, including guides on Kindergarten in Kansas; Writing a Parent and Family Engagement Policy; Kansas Can: Engage All Families; Positive Childhood Experiences; and Remote Learning: Together We Can Do This. During the 2020–2021 school year, resources were accessed a total of 11,883 times with the **Engaging All Families Modules** series comprising 41% of the total usage. There are 10 modules in the series that provide guidance to educators in welcoming families, recognizing diversity, ongoing communication, preparing for open houses and conferences, sharing resources, encouraging involvement, acknowledging concerns, addressing frequently asked questions, and obtaining feedback.

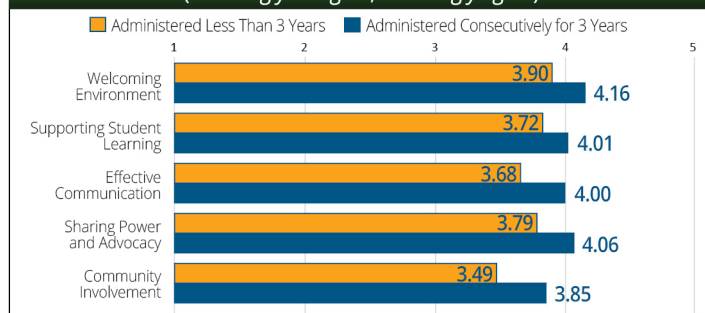
"I learned the importance of being proactive in including parents in their child's learning experiences by encouraging them to be partners in the decision-making process."
— Training Participant

Resource usage increased by 108% from 2018–19 to 2020–21

SCHOOLS ENGAGED FAMILIES

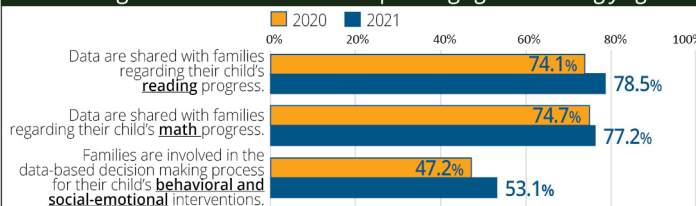
The 15-item **Family Engagement Survey** (Noonan, Gaumer Erickson, & Groff, 2015) was created in alignment with the PTA **National Standards for Family-School Partnerships** to help schools assess the degree to which they engage families in the education of their children. During the 2020–21 school year, parents or guardians contributed 8,183 survey responses, offering feedback on the family engagement practices of 126 buildings in 24 districts. Results are designed to pinpoint strengths and areas where schools can improve their family engagement practices. Districts that administered the survey for the past three consecutive school years reported higher degrees of family engagement across all five domains in 2021 than districts that disseminated the survey one or two of the past three school years.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY 2021 DISTRICT AVERAGES (1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree)



IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS REGARDING FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Percentage of Instructional Staff Responding Agree or Strongly Agree



Family engagement is an integral element of Kansas MTSS and Alignment. Instructional staff from 45 schools have completed the Inclusive MTSS Implementation Scale (Gaumer Erickson, Monroe, & Noonan, 2017) for each of the past two years, including 1,160 educators in 2019–20 and 1,600 educators in 2020–21. Data show that these educators are increasingly sharing progress data with families and engaging them in decision making, leading to strong partnerships that help ensure the success of each student.

Any school or district can launch the Family Engagement Survey for FREE by visiting www.DistrictTools.org and requesting access.