

Module 1: **Creating a Welcoming Environment**

Define: Welcoming Environment

A welcoming classroom environment for family partnerships is one in which the _____ environment and _____ conditions set the tone for positive feelings, interactions, and _____ between family members and school staff.

Why is it Important to Create a Welcoming Environment?

A welcoming environment:

- sets the tone for positive _____
- communicates _____ about the students and families served
- helps families feel _____ when visiting

How educators can help

- Begin using the term _____ rather than _____ due to the changing dynamics of caretakers (grandparents, aunts/uncles, friends, etc.)
- Focus on _____ rather than just _____
- Being _____ about the importance of establishing relationships with families
- Being _____ about your current efforts and CREATING A PLAN to strengthen the connection with families

Parent Involvement vs. Family Engagement

- _____ activities in schools (back-to-school night, etc.) in which the same group of parents continually participates
- Equals _____ or a family member's role in the operation of a school or organization (PTO, etc.)
- Giving parents the _____ and _____ to be an integral part of their child's learning PK-12
- Tying parents directly to a child's _____ performance — _____ in educating the child
- Not every parent needs us to help them be _____—focus on the ones who do!

4 Types of Schools/Classrooms

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Considerations of a welcoming classroom

- Physical Attributes in Classroom
 - clean, organized, _____
 - signs/posters/bulletin boards reflect _____ and _____
- Personal Attributes of Teacher
 - personality
 - _____ contact
 - finding a balance between _____ and _____
 - facial expressions



Reflection Questions: After participating in Module 1, Creating a Welcoming Environment, reflect personally on the following questions.

A. Which of the 4 types of schools best reflects the school you are teaching in? Why?

B. Which of the 4 types of schools best reflects your classroom? Why?

C. What are some actions that you can take to achieve a partnership school or partnership classroom?

D. What are your goals to improve the physical attributes in your classroom?

E. What are your goals to improve your own personal attributes as a teacher?

Certificate of Completion

is hereby granted to

Signature

to certify that he/she has completed

Engaging All Families Module 1: Creating a Welcoming Environment

Date: _____

Professional Learning Hours: _____

This certificate is not valid unless it is accompanied by the completed Module 1 Listening Guide and Take Five.

