

Care as a Bridge Between Us:

Living a Philosophy and Pedagogy of Parent and Teacher Engagement

A Video Series on Parent Engagement in the Early Years

Debbie Pushor & The Parent Engagement Collaborative III

Purpose of the Video Series:

- To invite sustained learning and reflection about parent and family engagement;
- To develop an understanding of parent and family engagement as a philosophy and a pedagogy;
- To share teacher and parent stories which exemplify starting points with parent and family engagement, learning journeys, and practices of possibility found to be effective;
- To provide resources for continued professional learning.



Audience:

- Specifically, early childhood educators, teachers, and parents of children 0-6 years of age;
- Broadly, parents, educators, school leaders, teacher educators, consultants.

Format for Each Video:

- Brief introduction of conceptual underpinnings;
- Purpose for viewing;
- Video clip(s) that present educators'/parents' stories;
- Questions that invite an unpacking of the stories;
- Reflective activities to promote a move to action;
- Brief closure;
- Further references for deepening learning.



Structure of Video Series:

- Broadly, the video series is metaphorically unified and thematically sequenced, so that viewers can work through the video series systematically;
- Specifically, each video has been created so that it can be used as stand-alone PD, if preferred.



Introductory Video (09:16)

Brent Campbell, Alicia Pritchard, Debbie Pushor

An invitation to “world travel” (Lugones, 1987) in order to walk alongside parents and families, to cross bridges into their worlds, and to learn with and from them in ways that enhance schooling and education for children.

Video 1: Examining Beliefs and Assumptions (30:30)

Janick Bender, Cari Issitt, Debbie Pushor, Falon Taylor

Considering teachers’ positioning and dis/positioning in relation to parents.

Video 2: Building Relationships: Learning With and From Parents (27:58)

Camille Barzeele, Janick Bender, Hayley Muench, Debbie Pushor, Jessica Wolff

Building a repertoire of strategies to spend meaningful and authentic time with families, to build trust and relationships, to learn from parent knowledge.

Video 3: Relational Home Visits (42:10)

Kim Goran, Katelynn Moldenhauer, Debbie Pushor

Understanding relational home visits as a way to enter into the lives of parents, children, and families as a listener and a learner.

Video 4: New Ways of Sharing Learning with Parents and Families (33:20)

Amy Basaraba, Camille Barzeele, Melanie Lynchuk, Debbie Pushor, Tracy Roadhouse

Transforming typical and taken-for-granted parent teacher conference/reporting practices to create space and voice for parent knowledge, and place educators and parents side by side in discussions of student growth and learning.

Video 5: Co-Constructing Teaching and Learning with Parents (37:18)

Camille Barzeele, Callie Lewry, Debbie Pushor, Kelly Stoddart

Exploring ways to use parent knowledge alongside teacher knowledge in curricular planning and programming.

Video 6: Systematic Parent Engagement (35:27)

Claudette Degagné-Ellis, Heather Grismer, Debbie Pushor, Carlie Rodomsky, Kelly Stoddart

Moving from random acts of parent engagement to a systematic approach.

Video 7: Engaging with Individual Parents (21:36)

Camille Barzeele, Momina Khan, Mariea Linklater, Debbie Pushor, Kelly Stoddart

Providing positive examples and strategies that dispel notions such as “hard to reach” families, “helicopter” parents, or “difficult” parents.

Closing Video (03:02)

Callie Lewry, Hayley Muench, Debbie Pushor

An invitation to join with us in a “gentle revolution,” one undertaken with care, concern, and respect for one another as parents and educators - to embed parent engagement as an integral, meaningful and authentic aspect of all schools.

Videos Produced by Mirror Video Productions

Music by Garnet Lindsay & Shelly Balbar

Our thanks to the Early Years Outcome (Education Sector Strategic Plan) and Government of Saskatchewan for their support.

The videos are available through open access at:

https://rover.edonline.sk.ca/en/rover/videos?series_id_eq=249