

# Welcome!

The session will begin shortly.

While we're waiting, take action with one (or more) of the steps below!

**Assess Your School: Take our 3-minute School Health Survey**

[www.actionforhealthykids.org/school-health-survey/](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/school-health-survey/)

**Stay Informed: Sign up for our Newsletters**

<https://www.actionforhealthykids.org/news-sign-up/>

**Get Involved: Find upcoming learning sessions and events**

<https://www.actionforhealthykids.org/events/>



October 20, 2021

# Facilitating Family-School Partnerships at the School Level

# Learning Objectives

After today's session, participants will...

- » Understand the basics of effective family-school partnerships and the role they play as school staff members
- » Identify aspects of effective family-school partnerships already in place in the school
- » Discuss challenges they may face in working to build an effective family-school partnership

# Logistics

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A few notes to make sure you have a smooth user experience!

- » Listen in with your telephone or computer speakers
- » Video and sound check – unmuting and pausing video.
- » Ask questions
- » Stay engaged and participate

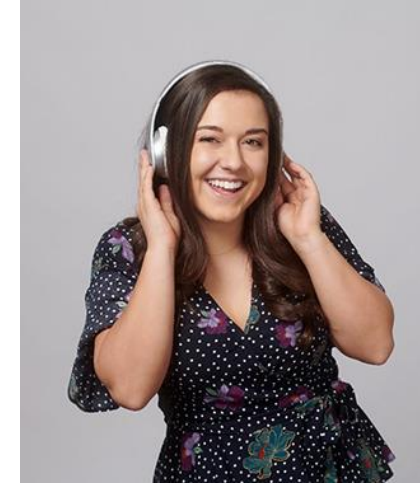
*All materials and session recording will be shared in follow up within 2 business days.*

# Meet the Team



Sean Wade

Director, Family-School Partnerships  
Action for Healthy Kids



Ali Armacost

Senior Program and Field Coordinator  
Action for Healthy Kids





# Introductions

Please share:

- Your name
- Your role
- Answer: *What brought you here today?*



# Agenda

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- AFHK Overview
- Power of Connection
- Family-School Partnership (FSP) Overview
- Four Core Beliefs
- Four Essential Elements of FSPs
- Building Trust with Parents & Caregivers
- Discussion and Questions
- Wrap Up and Next Steps



# Action for Healthy Kids Overview

Who We Are and What We Do



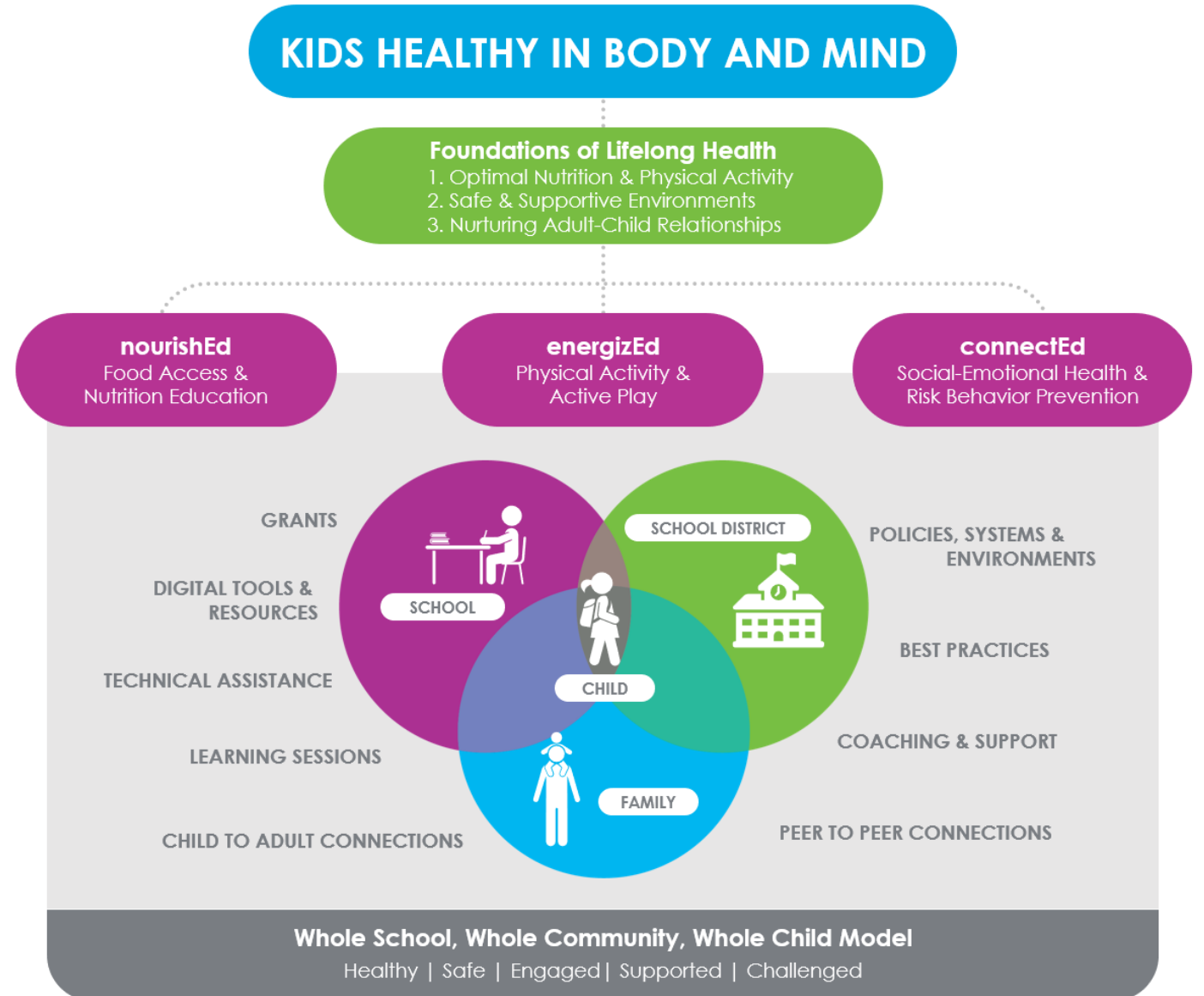
# Who We Are

Action for Healthy Kids is a national nonprofit organization committed to the belief that healthy kids create a better world. We pursue this vision by mobilizing family-school partnerships to address the child health crisis and prepare kids to be healthy in body and mind.



# What We Do

We collaborate with families, schools and school districts to support three key areas of child health.



# The Power of Parents and Caregivers

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**“School efforts to promote health among students have been shown to be more successful when parents are involved.”**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Parent Engagement: Strategies for Involving Parents in School Health*



# Power of Connection

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Maslow's Hierarchy shows that beyond our basic needs, a sense of belonging and connection with others is important for survival [1](#)



Connection with others creates space to:

- Discuss feelings and emotions
- Navigate challenges
- Learn from one another





“No meaningful family engagement can be established until relationships of trust and respect are established between home and school.”

“A focus on relationship building is especially important in circumstances where there has been a history of mistrust between families and school or district staff, or where negative past experiences or feelings of intimidation hamper the building of partnerships between staff and parents.”





# Tell Us What You Think!

What makes an effective Family-School Partnership?

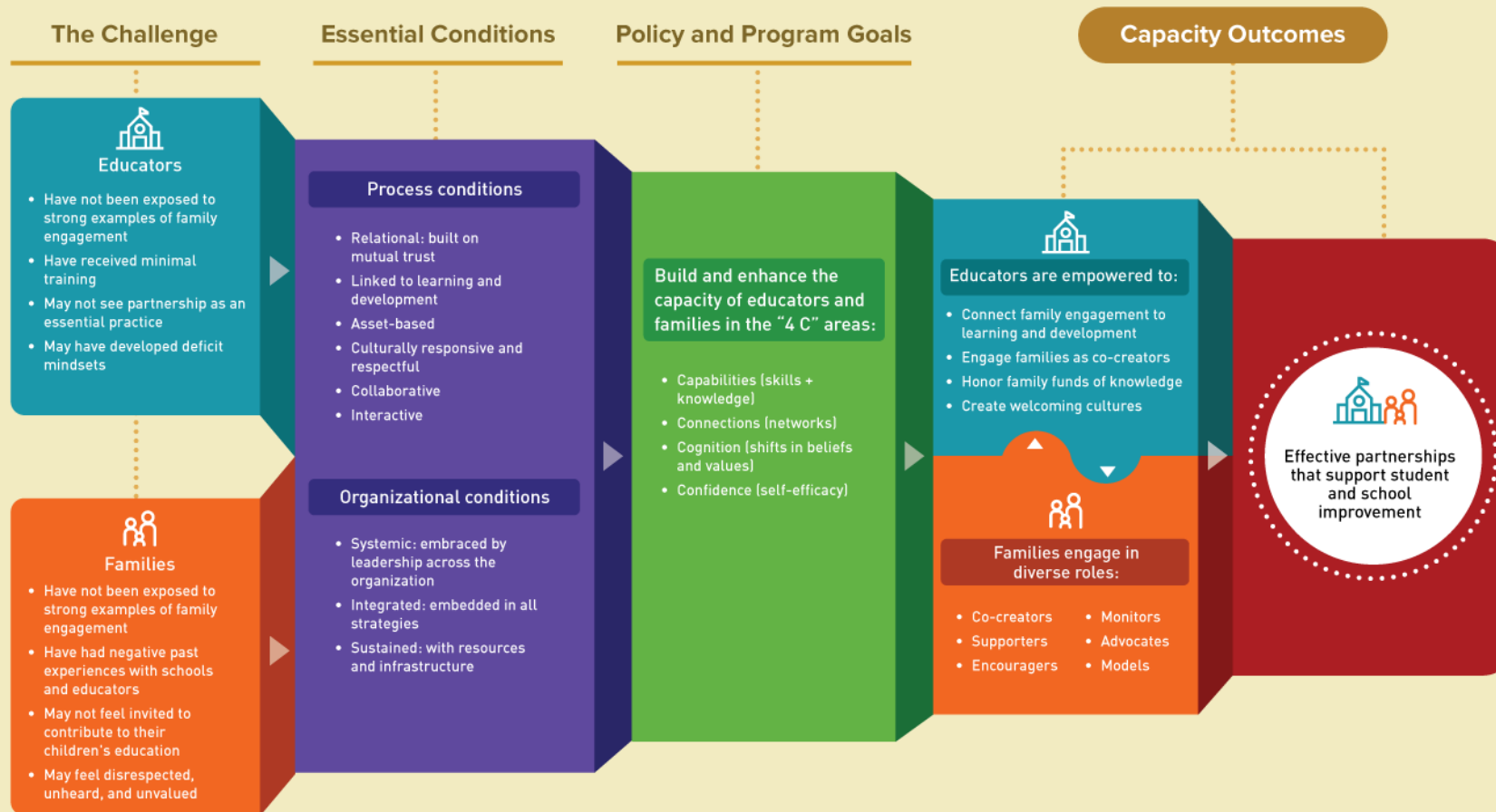




Effective family-school partnerships bring together district leaders, school staff and families to identify challenges to family engagement and specific child health needs, then develop, implement and evaluate effective and equitable solutions as a team.

# Dual Capacity-Building Framework (Mapp, 2019)

## The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships (Version 2)



# Four Core Beliefs

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**In the chat box answer...**

What do these core beliefs look like in practice at your school?

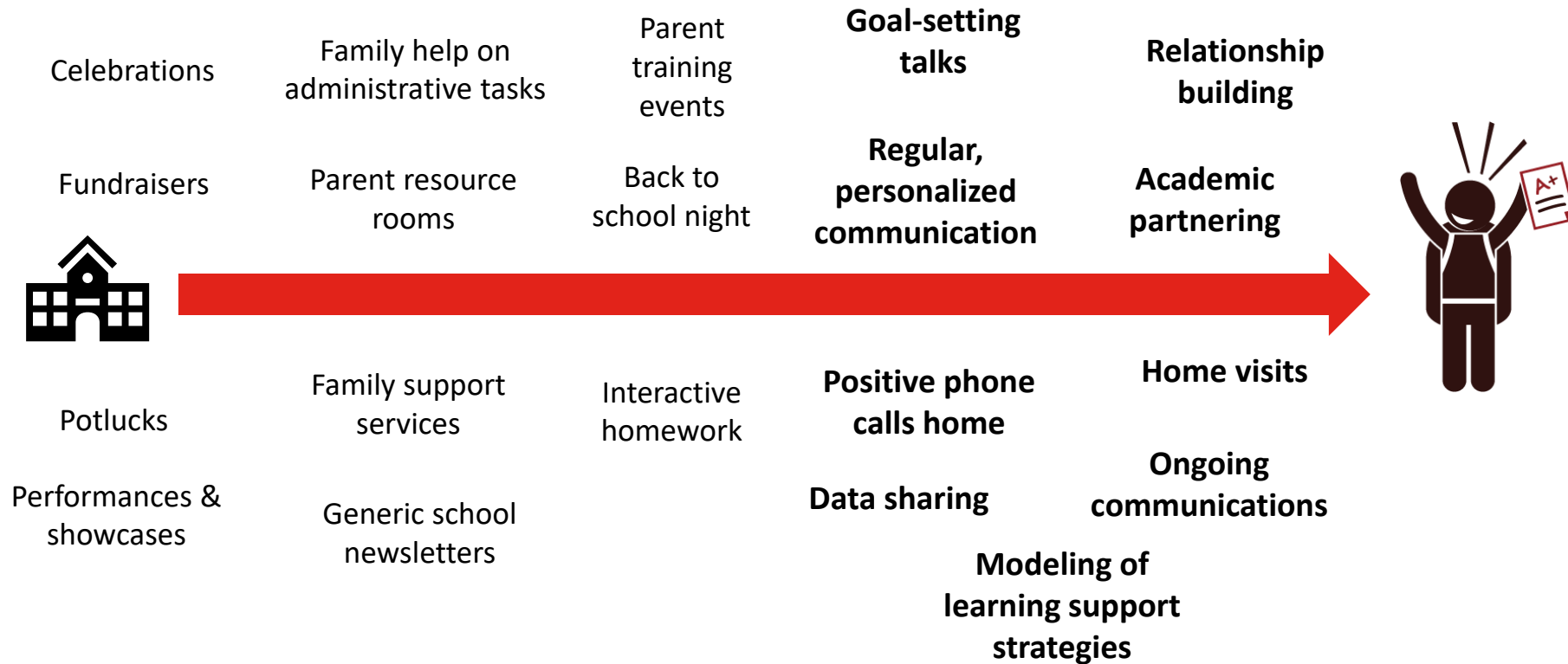
All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them.

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

Parents and school staff should be equal partners.

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

# CONTINUUM OF IMPACT





# Components of Effective Family-School Partnerships

## » **Inclusive Culture**

- An inclusive culture honors the lived experience of families in the school community

## » **Trusting Relationships**

- Trusting relationships enable families and schools to partner about the education and health outcomes for children and youth

## » **Capacity-Building Opportunities**

- Capacity building opportunities for staff and families promote shared leadership about educational outcomes for children and youth

## » **Dedication of Resources**

- Necessary resources integrate and elevate partnering practices to scale

Learn more here: [http://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/p-12\\_fscp\\_framework](http://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/p-12_fscp_framework)

# Tips for Building a Foundation of Trust with Parents/Caregivers

1. Stay patient and committed.
2. Seek diversity and representation.
3. Meet parents where they are.
4. Remain reflective and consider your mindset.



**Danielle's Herb Garden**

Ingredients	Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1/4 cup fresh mint leaves</li><li>2 cups (240ml) filtered water</li><li>honey or sweetener* of choice to taste</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 cucumber sliced</li><li>1 carrot sliced into matchsticks</li><li>basil</li><li>mint</li><li>rice paper (sub cabbage or lettuce)</li><li>vermicelli noodles</li></ul>

00:18:43 / 00:43:27

Speed

Search transcript

Danielle Marquez - APK

2021-07-28 15:21:44

Audio Transcript

Chat Messages

Search transcript

Hear from a Family Connector!

Danielle Marquez  
Los Angeles, CA

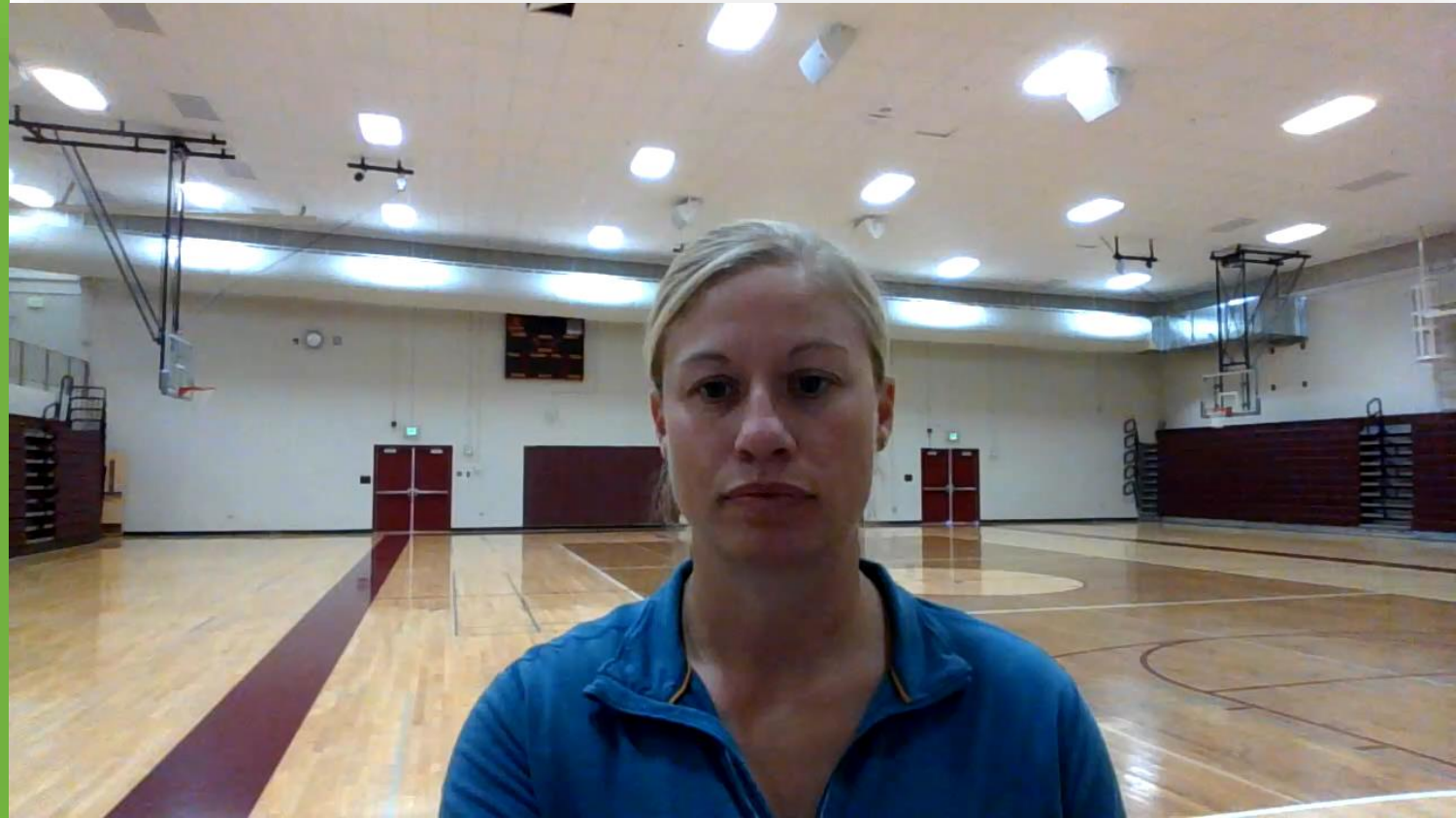
# Tips for Building a Foundation of Trust with Parents/Caregivers (Continued)

5. Get to know your families and the strengths they bring.
6. Demonstrate empathy.
7. Be realistic, flexible, and solution-oriented.
8. Turn words into actions.

Amy Windsheimer  
Brush, Colorado

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Let's hear from Amy on  
her top tips for family  
engagement!





# Where to Start: Tips for Educators

**Work with your school to create a warm and welcoming environment that shows parents their inputs is desired, respected and valued.**

- » Acknowledge challenges and shared struggle – everyone is doing a TON right now!
- » Start by building relationships with your families
  - Get to know your families and the strengths each brings
  - Make positive phone calls home – build trust first, then commitment will follow
  - Meet parents where they are, with respect
- » Create opportunities for all parents to get involved
  - Be proactive with your communication and outreach, and provide multiple ways to share input
  - Communicate consistently, and consider quality over quantity
  - Provide translation and let families identify what language they need
- » Listen to feedback and act on it!
- » Share school and district policies, goals and plans related to student health



We want to hear from you!

What challenges and/or successes can you share with the group?



# Next Steps

Check out these additional Family-School Partnership Resources:

- » [Tips for Building Trust with Parents/Caregivers: A Guide for Educators](#)
- » [Action for Healthy Kids Collaboration Guide](#)
- » [CDE Family School Community Partnership Framework](#)
- » [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#)
- » [Dual Capacity-Building Framework](#)
- » [Changing How We Talk About Family Engagement – Toolkit](#)
- » [Carnegie Foundation Challenge Paper](#)

# AFHK Learning Session Evaluation

After completing an AFHK Learning Session, please take 5 minutes to answer this survey and share your thoughts on today's session. Your input is very important to helping us improve future AFHK Learning Sessions!



**Your session title: Facilitating Family School Partnerships (FSPs) at the School Level**

**Two ways to access! Pick the way that works best for you!**

- Use your smart phone camera app and the QR code shown above
- Type the link into your browser:
  - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/21-22AFHKLearningSessionSurvey>



# Connect with Us!

Join in conversation discover fun activities and healthy recipes, learn of ways to get involved and take action!



**@Action for Healthy Kids**



**@act4healthykids**



**@Act4HlthyKids**



**@act4healthykids**



**@Action for Healthy Kids**



**@action-for-healthy-kids**



# Questions?

Connect with us at:

- Ali Armacost  
[aarmacost@actionforhealthykids.org](mailto:aarmacost@actionforhealthykids.org)
- Sean Wade  
[swade@actionforhealthykids.org](mailto:swade@actionforhealthykids.org)



**Every kid healthy, active and ready to learn**

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**Thank You!**