

COLONEL ROCKY J. CHÁVEZ

MEMBER FOR THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



AB 2878: Family Engagement- Research Based Definitions

SUMMARY

AB 2878 would add Family Engagement to Priority #3 of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Family Engagement calls on all public education entities such as, school districts, county offices of education, charter schools and state preschools to provide active and meaningful participation and training for families.

BACKGROUND

Research shows authentic family engagement leads to reduced absenteeism, decreased dropout rates, increased student achievement and increased graduation rates which lead to young adults who are college and career ready.

LCFF Priority #3 Parent Involvement (Engagement) calls on all public education entities such as, school districts, county offices of education, charter schools and state preschools to provide active and meaningful participation and training for families:

- In the development and updating of Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- In their role on other school district or site committees such as site councils or District English Learners Advisory Committees
- On the important role they play as their children's first teacher, to develop parent leaders and encourage parents to advocate for a complete education that includes a full curriculum in order to close the access, achievement, and opportunity gaps

As districts implement their own family engagement activities and programs, equity becomes an issue for students and families and the level of engagement being offered by

their school districts. But with many new programs, families may not know what is possible, outlining some of these options in the Education Code helps school districts and families know what their options are to create a more engaging education community.

There is no fiscal impact of the addition of suggested, research-based activities to the Education Code that could be utilized by local education agencies to supplement their own family engagement activities.

SOLUTION

AB 2878 seeks to use research-based guidelines to define what authentic family engagement could look like in the Education Code to help guide schools. The suggested activities have been developed using research-based family engagement practices and standards, including, but not limited to, the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. It could also include:

- Outreach in multiple languages
- Outreach to parents and families that are underrepresented in the school, school district, or county office of education
- Outreach strategies that are diverse and innovative

Adding Family Engagement to LCFF Priority #3 would better reflect the true engagement local education agencies could implement, based on their local needs.

SUPPORT

CA State PTA (Sponsor)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Veronica Badillo
veronica.badillo@asm.ca.gov