



We'll get started at

12:33 ET / 9:33 PT

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Cohort 3, Session 4

February 19, 2026

CHANGE YOUR ZOOM NAME:

Name, School/District, Location

Family Engagement Leadership Institute

Year-at-a-Glance

Fall 2025

Learning What Works and Aligning Family
Engagement Strategies to School/District
Goals

Sept – Oct – Nov

Sept. 24

Whole Cohort
Virtual Session #1

Oct. 29

Whole Cohort
Virtual Session #2

Dec. 2

Whole Cohort
Virtual Session #3

*Action Teams
invited to attend*

Feb. 19

Whole Cohort
Virtual Session #4

Spring 2026

Re-Designing Systems to Promote What
Works

Mar – Apr – May

Apr. 22

Whole Cohort
Virtual Session #5

*Action teams
invited to attend*

1:1 & Peer
Coaching

1:1 & Peer
Coaching

1:1 & Peer
Coaching

1:1 & Peer
Coaching

1:1 & Peer
Coaching

Share Goals &
Strategies for
This Year

Share Goals &
Strategies for
Next Year

Agenda

✓ Applying What Works

- Spotlight: Michael DeSousa and Sara Pearman, Pajaro Valley

✓ Core Beliefs Exercise

- Led by Ron Mirr

✓ Safe-to-Fail Experiments

- District Work Time with Coaches

Opening Reflection | Waterfall

Think of something you've seen in your district or school recently that brings you JOY or gives you HOPE.

- Take a moment to reflect on it.
- Jot it down in the chatbox.
- We'll share it at the same time.

**★
LEARNING
HEROES**

FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pajaro Valley Unified School District



Learning Goal: Improve Math Proficiency



TRUST

Leadership Moves

- Building Trust Through Listening & Connection

Our “Safe-to-Fail” Experiment(s)

- Empowered TK/K teachers to make welcoming calls to families, inviting them to share their hopes and dreams for their child.



ACTION STEPS

- Modeled listening and learning for the TK/K Team.
- Provided a script and practiced during a team meeting.
- Provided time to make these calls on Friday, December 5th Grade Level PLC.
- Have TK/K team share what they learned with the whole staff at Staff Meeting, Friday, January 30, 2026.

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LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE**

Valverde Elementary



Our Action Team

- **Emily Reilly** (Principal)
- **Mery Suarez** (Assistant Principal)
- **Cynthia Eames** (Dean of Culture)
- **Ana Munoz** (Parent)
- **Cindy Lopez** (Parent)
- **Gaby Segura** (Dean of Instruction)
- **Hanna Franzblau** (Social Worker)
- **Delia Meza** (Teacher)
- **Kelsey Erf** (Teacher)
- **Paz Torres** (Teacher)

THANK YOU TEAM!



Learning Goal: Increasing Literacy Proficiency



STUDENT LEARNING

Leadership Moves

- Strategically systematizing conference format for conferences to deepen academic conversations with families

Our “Safe-to-Fail” Experiment(s)

- Parent teacher conferences- help families understand and support grade-level academic benchmarks
- Student-led conference/progress sharing with I Can statements



ACTION STEPS

- Rochelle will send slide deck template
- Emily will review parent teacher conference deck to pilot with the 5th grade teacher - edit to fit the needs of the school
- Emily will meet with the 5th grade teacher to plan and share expectations
- Emily and teacher will gather MClass Home Connect and EM2 resources and send home with parents



STUDENT LEARNING

→ GOAL: Deepen family engagement with student academic progress

A screenshot of a Google Sheets spreadsheet titled "Spring Conference Tracker 2026". The spreadsheet has four columns: "Student Names", "Conference Held?", "Notes (Optional)", and "Will student be returning in the fall?". The "Student Names" column lists 20 students: Prince, Basu, Clifton, De-Y, Gomi, Gonz, Guer, Hurta, Lagu, Padil, Padil, Pere, Robl, Rosa, Ruth, Sant, Sauc, Silve, and Soria. The "Conference Held?" column has dropdown menus for each student. The "Notes (Optional)" column is empty. The "Will student be returning in the fall?" column has dropdown menus for each student.

Student Names	Conference Held?	Notes (Optional)	Will student be returning in the fall?
1 Prince			
2 Basu			
3 Clifton			
4 De-Y			
5 Gomi			
6 Gonz			
7 Guer			
8 Hurta			
9 Lagu			
10 Padil			
11 Padil			
12 Pere			
13 Robl			
14 Rosa			
15 Ruth			
16 Sant			
17 Sauc			
18 Silve			
19 Soria			
20			

Spring Conference Revamp!

Parent-Teacher Conference Template

Participant Spotlight | Sara Pearman, Principal of MacQuiddy Elementary

“This is hard, slow work that makes everything else possible. At MacQuiddy, we are not finished, but we are on our way. And it all began with the simple act of opening the gates.” -Sara Pearman





**LEARNING
HEROES**

We'll get started at

1:23 ET / 10:23 PT

BREAK

Core Beliefs Activity | Led by Coach Ron Mirr

What We Learned



WE WILL STOP:

- Asking teachers to implement family engagement strategies without providing the **necessary preparation** and support.



WE WILL CONTINUE:

- **Sharing i-Ready math data and co-creating at-home learning plans** (weekly goal of 45 min. of i-Ready practice) and expand the model to include ELA.



WE WILL START:

- **Welcoming calls** at all grade levels.
- **Home visits** with 10% of our families.
- **A case-management model so** that every family has a deep connection with at least 1 staff member.
- Centering **ELA and math proficiency in every family event**, ensuring families leave with concrete strategies.

Breakout Groups

In your deck...

- **Safe-to-Fail Experiments** – Jot them down if you haven't already
- **Stop, Continue, Start** – Discuss and capture your reflections

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Family Engagement Strategy SY 26/27

School Goals: Reduce Chronic Absenteeism, Improve ELA/Math Proficiency



TRUST

- Engage in deep listening through **Welcoming Calls** and **Relationship-Building Home Visits**.
- Implement a **case management model** for chronically absent students so that every family has a deep connection with at least 1 staff member.



STUDENT LEARNING

- Support teachers to **communicate ELA & Math proficiency** and **co-create** learning plans.
- Center **ELA & Math proficiency in family events**, ensuring families leave with **concrete strategies** to support their child's academic progress.



INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY ACTION STEPS

- Review safe-to-fail data and insights. (Summer)
- Train staff on relationship-building home visits. (Summer)
- Grade-level teams design strategies to reduce absenteeism and boost ELA/Math skills. (Fall)
- Provide Action Team support and share updates in monthly meetings. (Fall-Spring)

RESOURCES



Staff and grade-level meetings and existing PD (e.g., summer, Data Days)



Title I funds and Local Community Foundation

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN



Action steps have been embedded in our School Improvement Plan

LEARNING HEROES

Contact

Dr. Eyal Bergman

Strategic Advisor

ebergman@learningheroes.org



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Windy Lopez

SVP, Professional Learning

wlopez@learningheroes.org