Why Parent Engagement?

By Jennifer Hicks
Intro Activity

What does parent engagement look like for you today in your ministry context?
What settings are you working with youth or children?

- Traditional Church Ministry
- Parachurch Ministry
- School
- After-school Program
- Sports Program
- Other
My story -- how parent engagement became a passion for me
168
That's the number of hours available to everyone each week.
The Blindspot of Traditional Youth Ministry
Did you stop attending church regularly (twice a month or more) for at least a year between the ages of 18 and 22?

Among young adults (ages 23-30) who attended a Protestant church regularly for at least a year in high school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Trends in Education -- Beyond the Schoolhouse

“When schools use effective family engagement practices, students are 10 times more likely to improve their math performance and 4 times more likely to improve their reading performance.”

Byrk, Sebring, Allensworth, Lupescu, & Easton, 2012
The most accurate predictor of a student’s success in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which the student’s family is able to:

1. Create a home environment that encourages learning.

2. Communicate high, yet reasonable expectations for achievement in future careers.

3. Become involved in their children’s education at school and in the community
FIVE Levels or Types of Parent Engagement
1. Communicating
2. Parenting
3. Student Learning
4. Volunteering
5. Decision Making
HOW?

Practical Tips
Relationships Matter!
Interactive and Collaborative!
Building Capacity vs. Providing a Service
The mission of Neighborhood Homework House is to partner with the parents of at-risk Azusa students to provide tools to thrive academically and socially.
Parent Expectations
Parent Opportunities
But what about...
Brainstorming/Idea Bank
Team Inventory
Deuteronomy 6:7

...impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ...