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

RATIONALE FOR THE REVISIONS

The original Dual Capacity-Building Framework (DCBF) for Family-School Partnerships received its official launch in April 2014 at the first annual IEL Family and Community Engagement Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. The DCBF was authored by Karen L. Mapp with the help and support of the US Department of Education (USDOE) during her consultancy with the department. The publication, *Partners in Education: A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships*, authored by Karen L. Mapp and Paul Kuttner, was published in 2013 by the Southwest Educational Development Lab in collaboration with the USDOE.[1]

Over the past six years, numerous federal, state, and local policy, research and practice organizations have used the framework to guide their work on family-school partnerships. To learn about the usefulness of the framework, Dr. Mapp began collecting feedback from users, including a survey given to over 1000 participants at the June 2017 IEL Family and Community Engagement Conference in San Francisco. Version 2 of the DCBF incorporates themes that emerged about needed changes to the framework from the data collected and from advances in research. Dr. Mapp asked Eyal Bergman, doctoral candidate in Harvard's Educational Leadership Program, to work with her on the revision and to co-author a forthcoming report, which will be published by IEL. We are grateful to Brittany Usiak, EdM, Harvard Graduate School of Education, for her work on the 2017 survey analysis, and the team at Scholastic (Wook Jin Jung, VP of Design and Karen Baicker, Publisher/Family & Community Engagement) for their pro bono work on the new design.

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES

The most fundamental change in Version 2 is reflected in the flow and direction of the graphic. The movement indicates a shift from ineffective to effective partnerships, and a coming together of families and educators for the benefit of students and schools. Additional changes to the sections are outlined below.

The Challenge

Helps us understand the reasons why educators and families have struggled to build trusting and effective partnerships.

Version 2 now identifies the most prominent barriers to effective partnerships.

It acknowledges that educators and families start in distant positions, and that there are historical explanations for this.

The educator and family logos are also new. They are meant to underscore the flow toward effective partnerships at the end of the graphic.

Essential Conditions

Offers research-based guidance for best practice to cultivate and sustain partnerships.

This section has been renamed from "Opportunity Conditions" to "Essential Conditions."

Relational trust has moved to the top to highlight its indispensability.

Asset-based and Culturally Responsive & Respectful have been added.

Organizational Conditions now acknowledge the significance of leadership across the system.

Policy and Program Goals

Highlights the goals and outcomes that should emerge for educators and families when the Essential Conditions are met.

This section remains largely unchanged. Practitioners from across the educational landscape have indicated that the 4 C's are helpful for conceptualizing and evaluating effective practice.

Capacity Outcomes

Improvements in capacity lead to educators and families working in mutually supportive ways, leading to student and school improvements.

This section is now split into two:

First, a newly illustrated reciprocal exchange speaks to the power of educators and families to support one another's continued growth.

Second, the last part of the graphic underscores the ultimate goal of improved educator-family partnerships – improvements for students and schools.