

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In order for school improvement efforts to be successful and sustained over time, the community, families, and all stakeholders must be actively engaged in the initiative. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) provides a range of resources tailored to the needs of partner schools and districts to accomplish goals such as: assessing the current status of community engagement; creating a collaboration plan to bridge the school and community; developing buy-in from community, family, and business to support student achievement; involving parents/families in academic goals; and supporting the collaboration plan between the school and community.

Topic	Description
1. Initial Planning Meeting	An executive coach meets with the leadership team to discuss goals and set a timeline.
2. Community Kick-Off Event	The whole community is invited to a keynote address and best practices from model schools across the nation.
3. <i>WE Support™ Community Survey</i>	HMH provides an understanding of expectations and perceptions the community has about the district/school and student learning.
4. Interviews with Key Stakeholders	Leadership teams, teachers, support staff, students, business leaders, parents, etc., are interviewed to assess perceptions.
5. School/District Report	Recommendations come from the survey data and interviews.
6. Planning Meeting	HMH reviews the report and develops a strategic action plan.
7. Executive Coaching	Execution includes facilitating communication and coaching.

Evidence of Effectiveness: With the goal of helping Broad Ripple Magnet High School in Indianapolis better communicate with the community and elevate the voice of families, HFM helped to organize two community open houses and provided ongoing coaching for staff on enhancing community involvement.