

A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE ON ENGAGEMENT BY SOCORRO FERNANDEZ.

A parent is working hard to involve herself in her children's education—something that was impossible for her own parents.

Written by the daughter of parents who earned their living by picking fruit, this essay documents the author's academic struggles and her determination to break the disconnect with the school her three children attend. Fernandez, who explains how her parents were unable to attend any school meetings or support her academically, dropped out when she was in middle school but her parents never learned of this until it was time for her to graduate from high school. This essay, part of a Carnegie Corporation-commissioned challenge to explore the role of family engagement in student success, chronicles her own efforts to help bridge the gap between school and home for her own children. She discusses the different strategies that she employs, including having her kids count cars and read the school lunch menu in Spanish and in English. She also joined the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) and the English Learner Advisory Committee where she learned about resources, programming and her rights as a parent. She said that her work with both organizations has already paid off with benefits for her own children, including ensuring that her son was registered - and academically ready - for Kindergarten.

Fernandez, Socorro. "A Parent's Perspective on Engagement." The 74, Oct. 23, 2018.

<https://www.carnegie.org/news/articles/parents-perspective-engagement/>



Thanks to generous support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, *Our Neighborhood*, is a compilation of stories and research from the family engagement field. It is intended to be a living repository and guide for STEM Learning Ecosystems and other communities interested in cultivating strong community partnerships to prepare the next generation.

This annotated bibliography was compiled by TIES for *Our Neighborhood*.