

DEVELOPING PROGRAMS TO ENGAGE PARENTS OF 1ST GENERATION STUDENTS IN STEM FOR STUDENT SUCCESS BY JOYCE EPSTEIN.

School and district administrators must support first generation students and their families to ensure action teams in classrooms and programs at all grade levels. States and community based organizations play roles in eliminating historic barriers as well.

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This document contains prints of slides from a presentation at the conference. Individual slides address various elements necessary to actualize parental engagement in STEM programs for first-generation students.

They include highlights of research about the importance of this engagement as well as stating the need for school district or organization leaders to be involved. No longer is the responsibility for such programs left to parents and limited to pre-school, but instead needs to be part of school and classroom organization, using action teams at all grade levels.

Dr. Epstein highlights a framework for the six types of involvement: parenting, communicating, volunteering, learning at home, decision-making, and collaborating with community. Historic barriers to involving all families (family structures, racial, economic and linguistic differences) need to be changed so that equity is at the center of programs. This also requires multi-level leadership in schools, districts, states and organizations.

She encourages the writing of annual action plans for partnerships, linked to goals for student success. She offers concepts of how to engage students, parents and communities in STEM, and highlights three schools—two in Washington State, and one in Connecticut—which are showing the way.

She concludes by sharing examples of help offered by the NNPS, including research, technical assistance, networking opportunities, planning and evaluation tools, as well as various publications.

Epstein, J. (May 2018). “Developing programs to engage parents of 1st generation students in STEM for student success.” National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) Conference, New York.



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*.