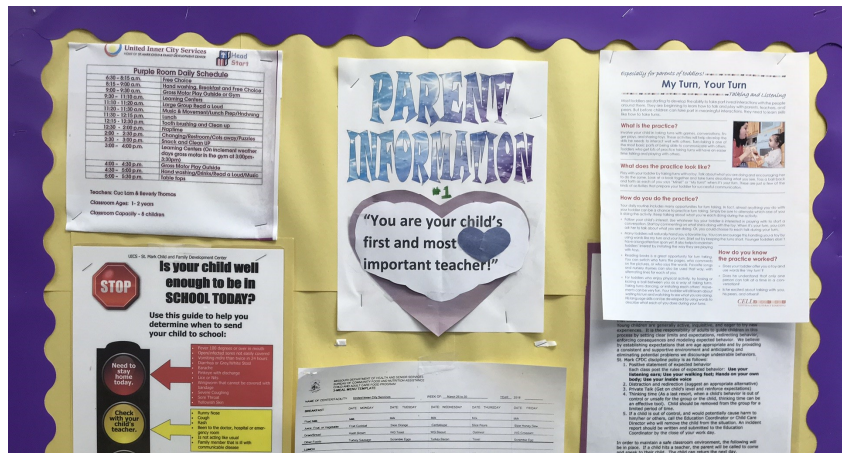


# Family Engagement Strategies

## Facility

Feeding	Breast-feeding space provided for mothers
Bulletin Boards	Allow parents to see notices about events, resources, social-emotional development, and what is happening in the classroom; In classroom, post family photos
Conversation Corner	Dedicated space for parents to talk privately with staff
Charts	Allow parents to quickly communicate and receive information about how their child is doing/feeling
Class Schedule	Parents can easily see when child will be in room, eating (for toddlers), etc. Schedule allows parents to see when they might want to volunteer in the classroom or come to see their child in a specific setting



## In-Person

Open-Door Policy	Parents are part of the community, so may be in the classroom anytime, throughout the day and are invited to do so
Staff-Parent Contact	Parents encounter and have opportunity to talk privately with staff
Volunteerism	Parents are invited to come into the classroom to serve, such as reading to babies, rocking children, or helping with feedings
Home Visits	Staff meets with families in their homes to learn about family
Phrase Book	Staff has access to phrase book to assist in basic communication in other languages, when interpreter is unavailable (Hello. How are you? Baby was tired today.)
Classroom Celebrations	Find fun reasons to bring parents into the classroom, such as celebrating school milestones, holidays, and success stories



# Family Engagement Strategies

## Technology

Phone	Connect with parent to share both positive stories and when concerns arise to learn about family interests, activities,
Text	Reminders, short bits of information to help parent support child's development, resource sharing, setting up appointments; Share photos of child meeting expectations (baby napping, toddler sharing, etc.)
Apps	Apps help share information, coordinate events, give parents access to child project. Examples: SeeSaw, Learning Genie, Remind
Social Media	Media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram allow parents to reinforce school activities at home in timely fashion; learn more about child development; receive reminders about special events. Private groups allow parents to have access to what their child is doing throughout the day, ask questions of the center's community of parents and staff, and have a place to share ideas
Website	Provides general information about center, contacts, events, handbooks & policy, curriculum, PBS process
Email	Useful for sharing digital newsletters and forms (but not forms that need to be printed), PBS information

## Paper

Notes Home	Share information about good things child is doing, connect on touchpoints (prepare family for challenging stages of development and educate about why they are important and how they are positive in advance); positive notes about parent's strengths and efforts (supportive notes)
Resources	Connect family to relevant community resources
Educational	Information about social-emotional development and challenging behavior, tips, activities to do at home
Newsletter	Allows parents to see big picture of what is happening at the center, get to know staff, allow parents to submit stories about how they are engaging their child at home
Questionnaires	Questionnaires seeking parent input sent home
Classroom Books	Create books to send home for families to read together; Topics include expectations, rules, daily procedures (depending upon age)
Home Activity Calendar	Send out home paper calendar with simple ways parents can encourage social-emotional development; reinforce calendar on social media or through apps

