



**LEARNING
ROUNDTABLE**

**Building a
Stronger Texas**



Activated and
Empowered –
Families as
Partners

Moderator: State Board of Education member
Tom Maynard

Presenters:

Marta Plata, principal of Manuel Jara
Elementary School, Fort Worth ISD

David Vinson, superintendent, Wylie ISD

Lacy Wood, principal technical assistance
consultant, American Institutes of Research

Ramona Morin Aguilar, director of family and
community engagement, Garland ISD

THE VISION
2013-PRESENT



"If we empower the parent, we change the home life. If we change the home life, we empower our kids"... M.Plata



MANUEL JARA ELEMENTARY

Creating a Culture of Equity & Excellence!



Manuel Jara El. is a **TITLE I** Campus serving 549 students in grades 1 – 5

★ The school has **MET STANDARD** for each of the years of STAAR and has earned ***Distinctions in Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA and Top 25% Student Progress***
2018- Report Card Grade B

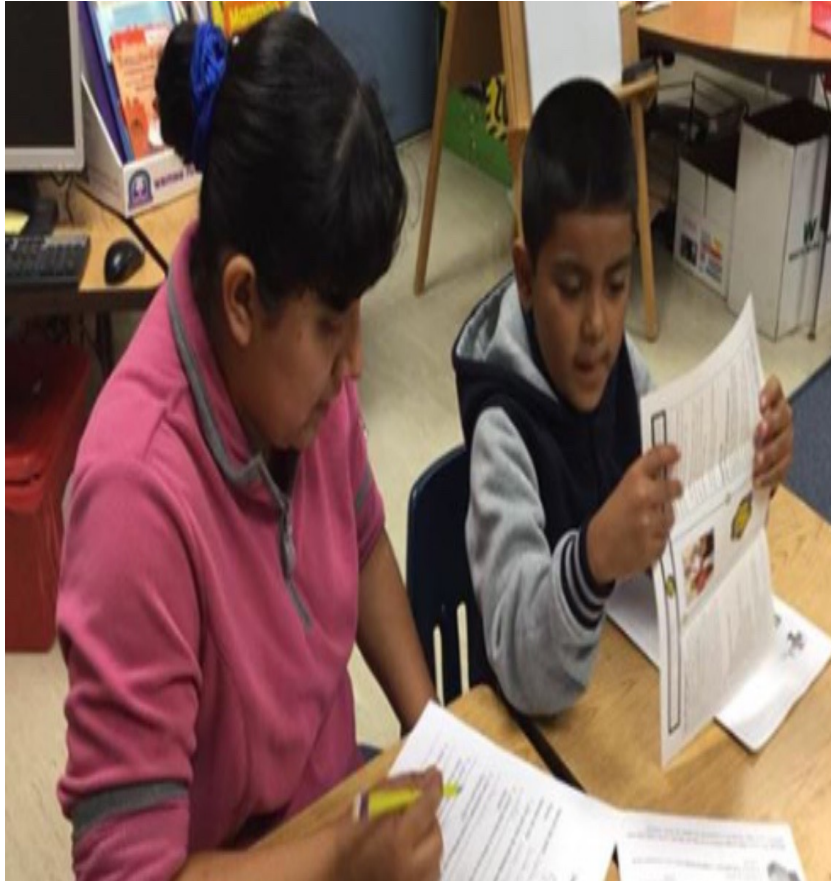
- Minority enrollment is 97% Hispanic
- Attendance rate is 97%
- LEP –316 students 58%
- Economically Disadvantaged – 515 students 95%
- Special Education / LINC– 62 students 11%
- Dual Language program – 269 students 50%

Catch The Vision

- Imagine a school that not only prepares children for academic success, but also empowers parents to raise successful children. Course #101



Imagine parents sitting with their kids as they learn together, how to live a more healthy, caring and responsible family life.



Imagine parents coming to school, committed to learn together across all cultures to improve their children's education. Course #201



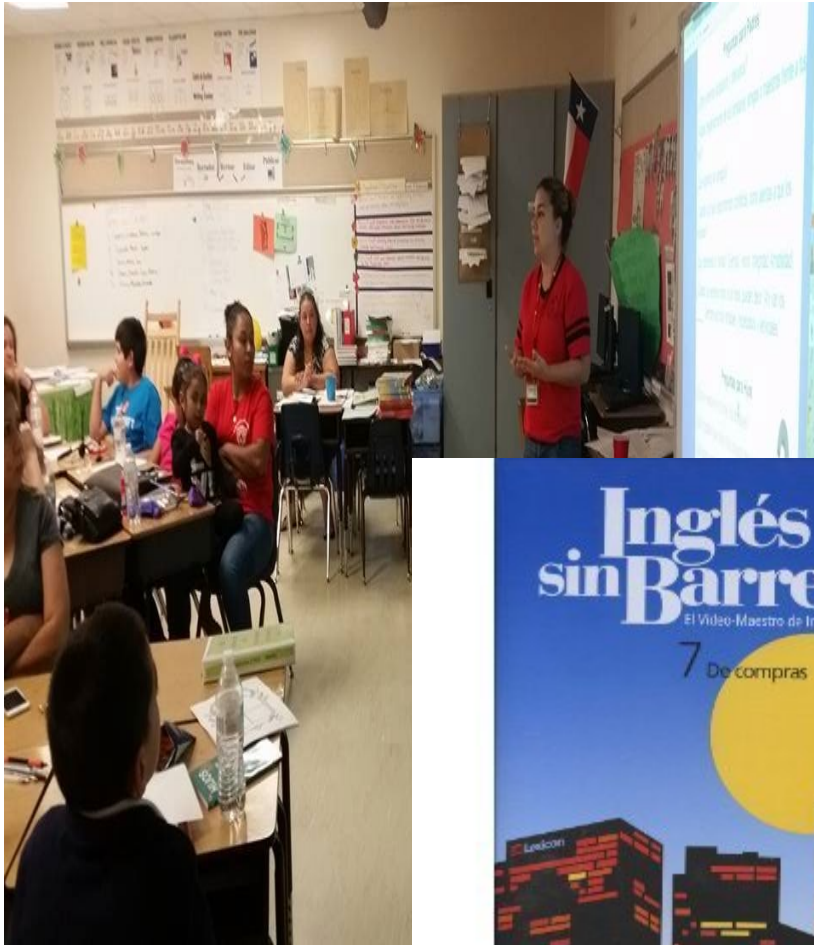
Imagine parents coming to school, committed to improve their own education.
Course #301- *Intro to G.E.D*



Imagine building capacity within your community

Course # 401- INTERNSHIP or INGLES SIN BARRERAS

Parent Leadership Academy Graduates Give Back Parent to Parent Learning



COURSE #501- Tarrant County College Partnership

Parent Leadership Academy

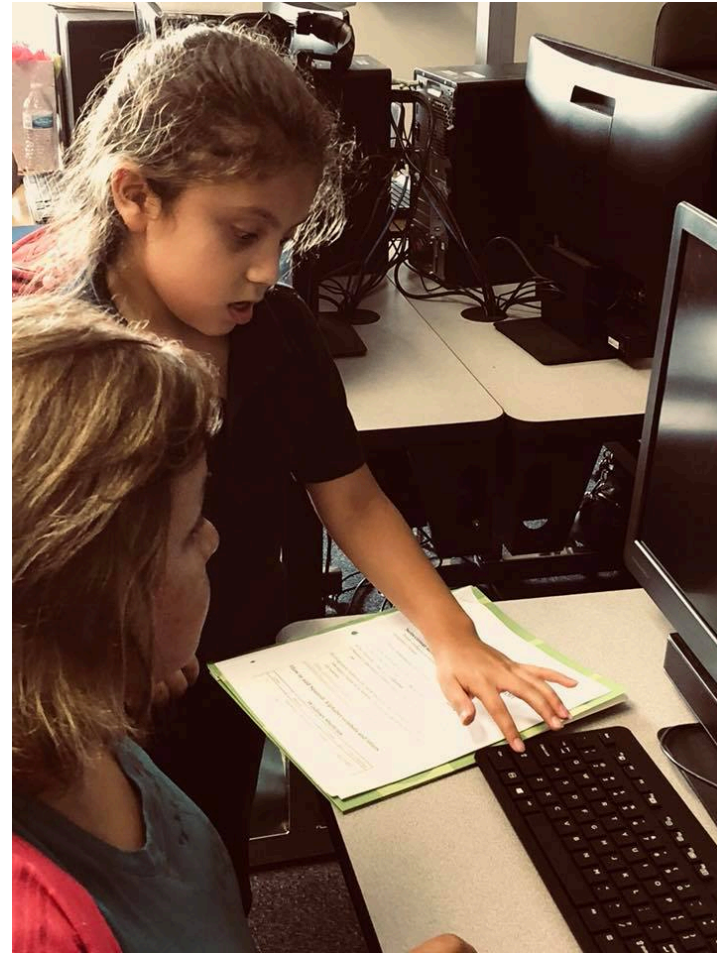




TCC FIELD TRIP



Course #601 T3-Tech Together & Triumph



Coming in 2019-2020



Course #701
Money Matters

Diamond Hill Elementary



Bonnie Brae Elementary



Woodway Elementary

"The opportunity to grow with the parents in our community was amazing. I learned so many life lessons and built so many new relationships." Brian Johnson principal of Woodway Elem- MJE congratulates you for your success in Parent University 🎓👏



Our Parent University was an amazing experience for the parents and the staff that volunteered to facilitate. These parents are now more involved at school and at much more at ease on the campus. We are looking forward to continuing next year. All of our parents that graduated have agreed to come back next year and encourage other parents to enroll. –Samantha Gonzales principal BONNIE BRAE ELEMENTARY

Building a Stronger Texas: Long Range Plan for Public Education

Vision by 2030

- An educational system and culture of trust that welcomes and values every family as an active partner by building relationships
- All cultures will be valued and welcomed into the process for student success
- All communication will be fully utilized to engage, empower and connect with all stakeholders
- Systems and resources will be in place to engage, empower and support families as they navigate through the complex educational process

Building a Stronger Texas: Long Range Plan for Public Education

Recommendation

Recommends that school districts and communities build and foster relationships, address differences and support advocacy *in partnership with families*

Partnership Schools: A Design Team Approach



Harvard
Graduate School
of Education



Partnership School

How can we create a space for authentic relationships?

How can we build trust?

How can we build dual capacity?

How can we become a Partnership School?



Dual **Capacity and** Authentic Partnership

Four Core Beliefs

1. All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them.
2. All parents have the capacity to support their children's learning.
3. Parents and school staff should be equal partners.
4. The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home rests primarily with school staff, especially school leaders.

Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family/School Partnerships (2007) by Henderson, Mapp, Johnson, and Davies

Design Team Approach

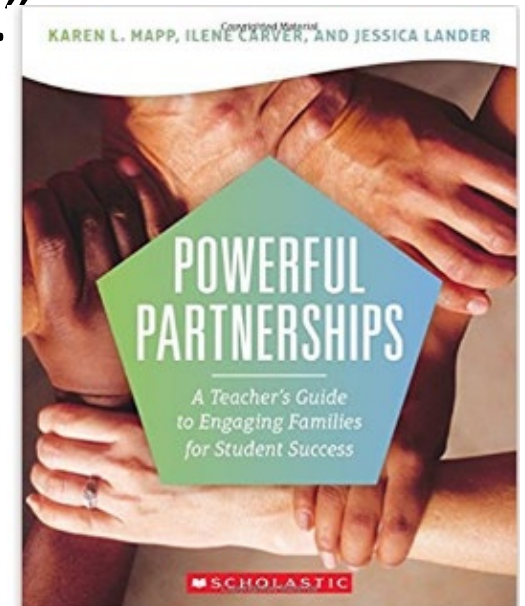
- Dual Capacity Building
- Co-create family engagement initiatives
- Open space to share ideas and evaluate data
- Shared ownership
- Voluntary

Building Capacity: Book Study

Powerful Partnerships: A Teacher's Guide to Engaging Families for Student Success by Karen Mapp

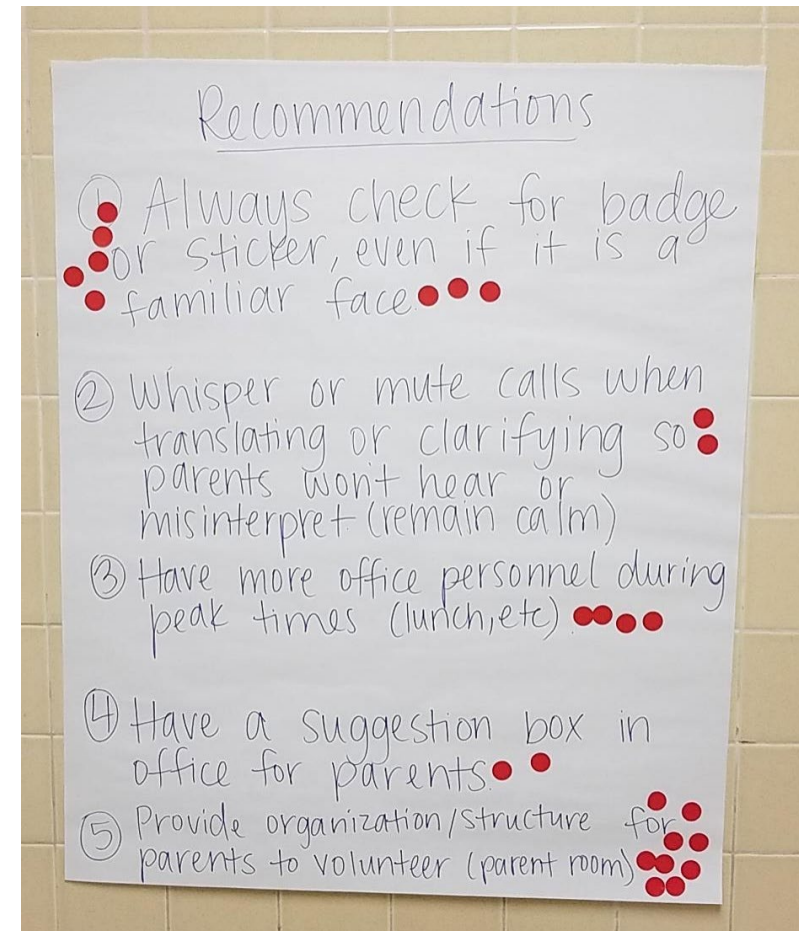
“What if parents were seen as the leaders, and we (teachers) used our knowledge and expertise to support their end goals.”

– Rachel Medina



Design Team Work

- Harvard Family-School Engagement Survey
- Share your “Why”
- Hopes and Dreams Letter
- Welcoming Walkthrough
- Collect and review data
- Co- create family engagement initiatives





@gisdengagement

- Dr. Ramona Morin Aguilar
 - Director of Family and Community Engagement
- Garland ISD
- @rmorinaguilar