



Seattle Preschool Program

voluntary, high-quality, affordable

Welcome!

Family Engagement

November 22, 2014 ▪ 10:00am – 12:30pm

Agenda

1. Opening Activity
2. Setting the Context – Rachel Schulkin
3. Family Engagement – Stephanie Jones
4. Short Break
5. Activity and Discussion
6. Next Steps

Meeting Objectives

1. Identify key supports for teacher certification
2. Discuss components of teacher waiver process

Opening Activity

- Name
- Organization
- **Feeling** about today's topic
- **Greatest need** related to this work
- **Greatest hope** related to this work



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Setting the Context

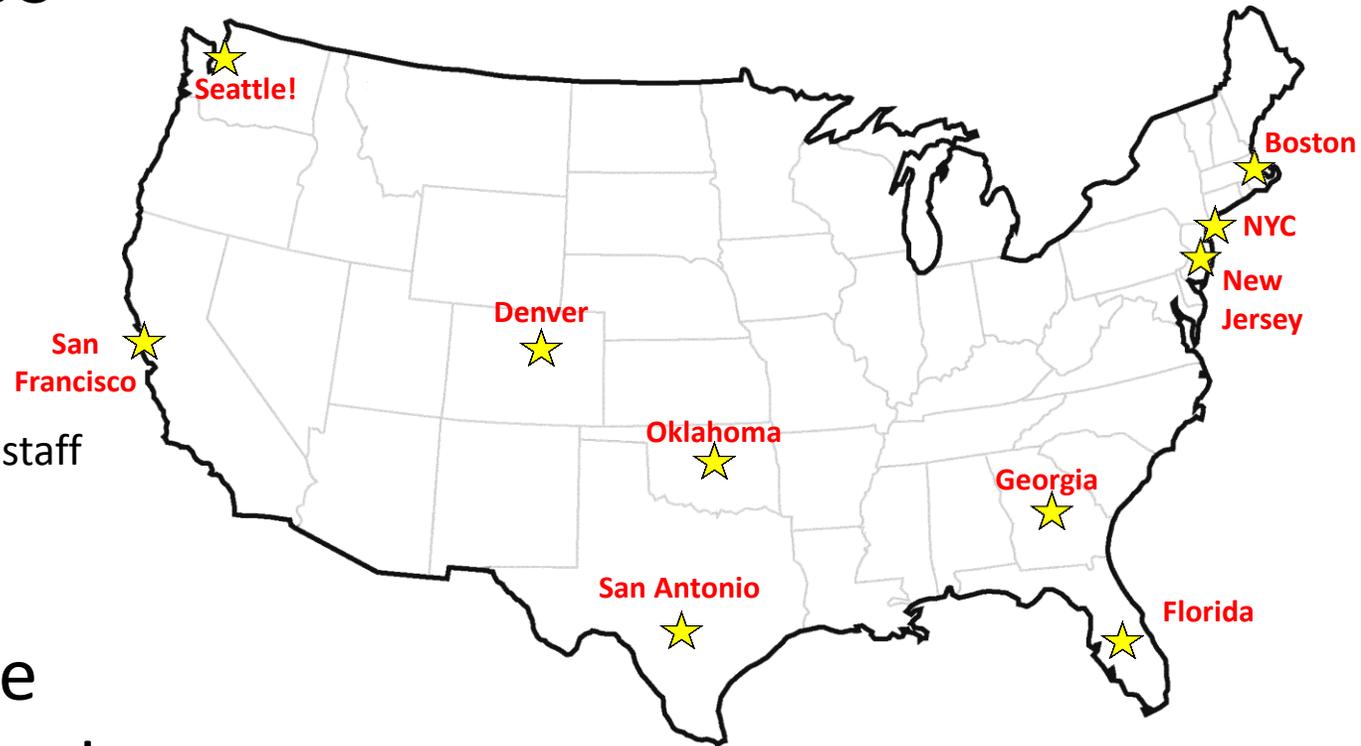
Overview

1. Local and national preschool expansion
2. Seattle City Council legislative guidance
3. Our topic today (and why it matters)

Local and National Preschool Expansion

How do we know things are changing?

- Preschool expansion across US
- President Obama announces "Preschool for All" Plan
 - High-quality preschool to all four year olds
 - Well-trained teacher, paid comparably to K-12 staff
 - Rigorous curriculum
- Emerging research on positive effects of high quality preschool



Early Learning Movement Building

| | Financial Investments | Policy Changes |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| National | Race to the Top Funding (Early Achievers) | Obama Preschool Plan |
| State | ECEAP Expansion | ECEAP Expansion |
| Local | Property Tax Levy | Seattle Preschool Program |

Local Movement Toward Quality

Summer 2011: Early Achievers—quality improvement funding, parent knowledge of ratings

Spring 2013: UW creates low-cost, online BA degree in early childhood

Fall 2013: City of Seattle creates Early Learning Academy

Winter 2014: Washington State Early Start Bill introduced

Summer 2014: Seattle Preschool Program Action Plan

Fall 2014: City of Seattle creates Department of Education and Early Learning

Fall 2014: Seattle Voters approve Seattle Preschool Program

Areas of Focus

Areas of Focus

1. Family Engagement
2. Dual Language Programs
3. Teacher Pathways to Certification
4. Curriculum
5. Teacher Training & Coaching
6. Provider Contracting & Student Enrollment

Family Engagement

Meeting Objectives

- Identify best practices for family engagement
- Share community partnership strategies

Legislative Guidance

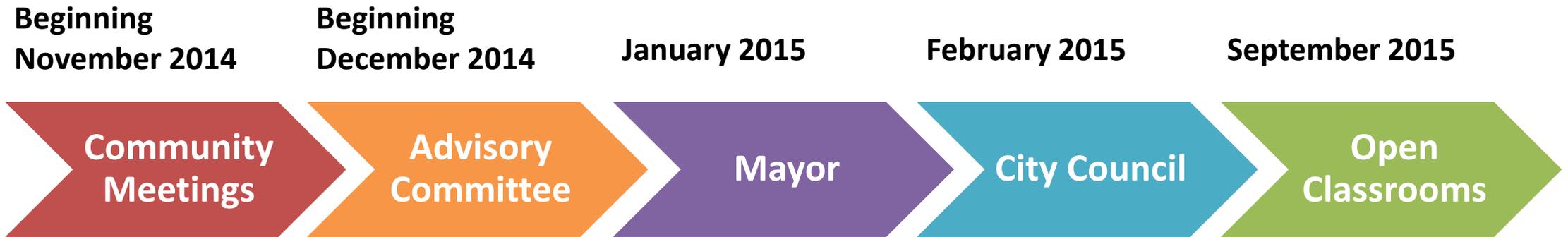
Family Engagement

- **Prioritize a universal family engagement approach** that integrates intentional parent/child activities and promotes academic, social, and emotional school readiness.
 - Families will be provided with evidence-based activities, which could include proven home-learning activities, tied to the chosen curriculum models.
 - Providers will host events throughout the school year to connect families to resources and information on topics such as child development and nutrition.
- **Build on Early Achievers Strengthening Families framework** to increase providers' foundational knowledge about the importance of parents and families in children's lives and the family's impact on child outcomes.
- **Create a family engagement grant fund** that could be used by providers to design, develop, and provide family engagement activities. (Seattle Preschool Program Action Plan, 2014)

Why Family Engagement Matters

- **Learning activities done in the home** have positive impact on children's school readiness.
- **High-quality trainings for parents** to strengthen parent/children interaction, with opportunities for modeling, practice, and feedback have a positive impact on children's cognitive skills.
- **Family-to-family networks** have shown promising results for children.

Implementation Planning Process





CPPS = Parent leaders making an educational difference!

Stephanie Jones, Executive Director 206-604-4408



We believe that families:

- **Have strengths**
- **Contribute to learning**
- **Can help schools**
- **Care deeply about their children**
- **Have helpful ideas and insights about education**
- **Can be effective partners**



Research finds...

Essential components for successful schools are:

- **Strong leadership**
- **Parent and community ties**
- **Professional capacity of the faculty**
- **School learning climate**
- **Instructional guidance**

Organizing Schools for Improvement: Lessons from Chicago, Bryk, et.al, 2010



Engagement is very important in American education.

Behind the scenes

Out in Front

Local

Supporter

Teacher

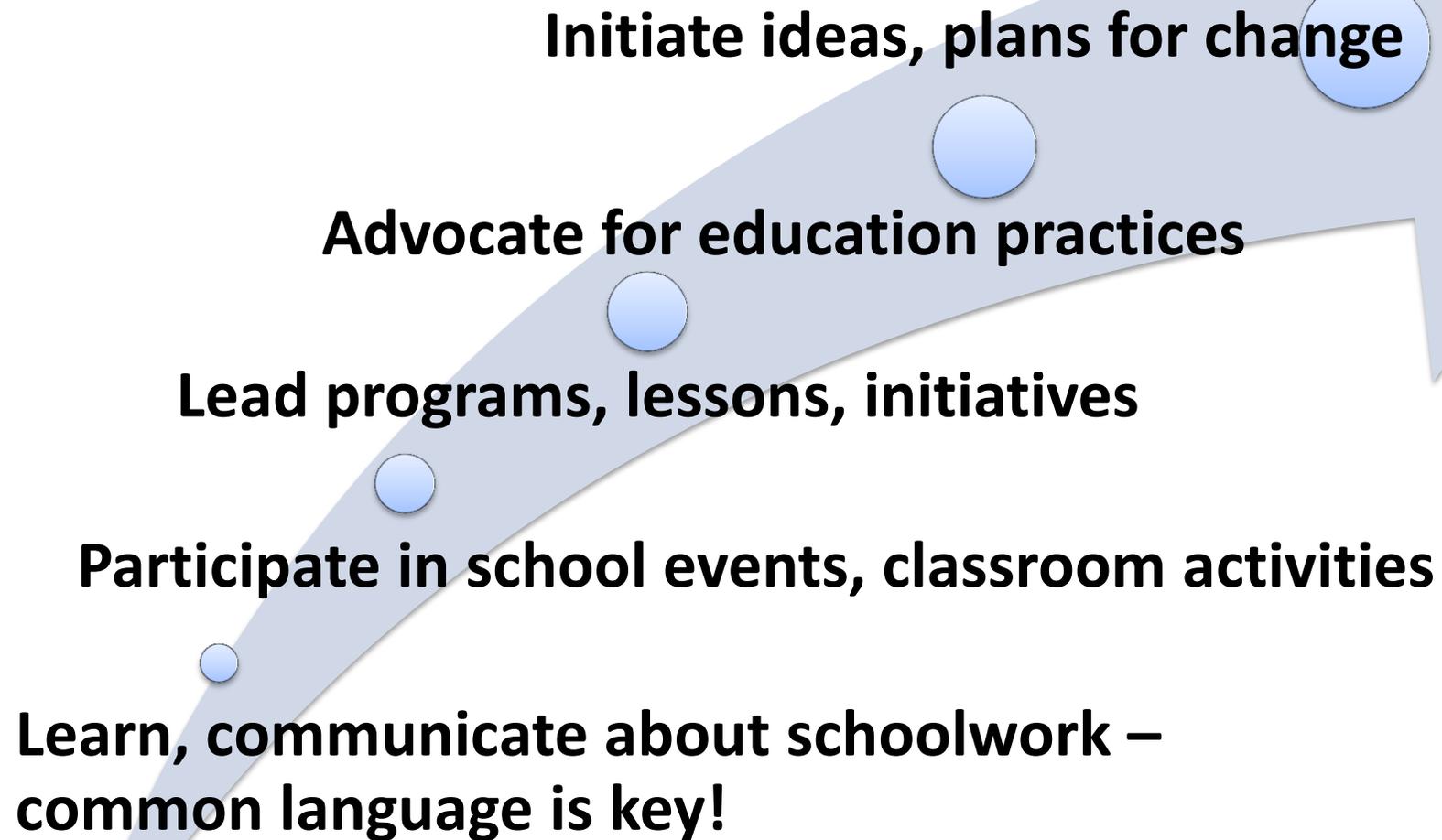
Global

Advocate

Decision Maker



Paths for families



Benefits to parent engagement

When schools and families work together to support learning, everyone benefits:

- **Students do better in school and in life.**
- **Parents become empowered.**
- **Teacher morale improves.**
- **Schools get better.**
- **Communities grow stronger.**

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education

www.ncpie.org



Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Philosophy

- **Responsive**
- **Comprehensive**
- **Based on shared responsibility**
- **Outcomes-based and data driven**
- **Systemic and program wide**

**All of these features depend on intentional relationships
for their success.**

Office of Head Start National Center on Parent, Family and Community Engagement



Capacity-building is key



Families who understand what their children need are essential to school success



Break

What are WE doing today?

Four Levels of Community Engagement:

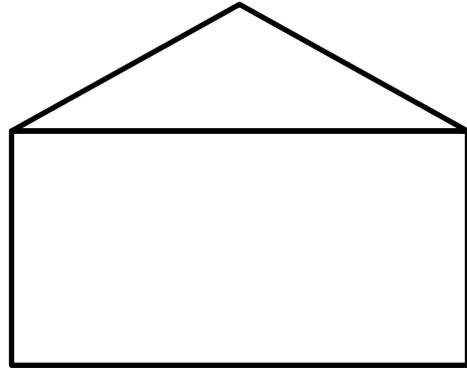
Information Sharing

Feedback

Influence

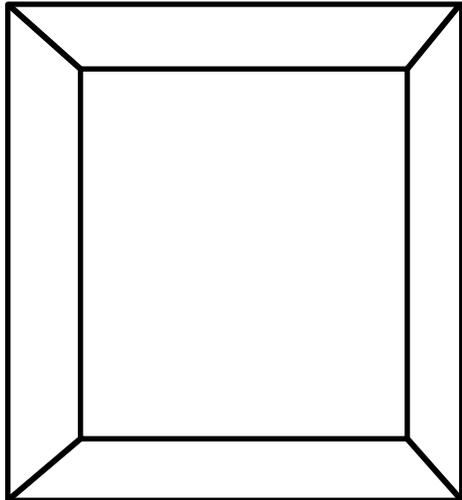
Decision Making

Framing



House frame

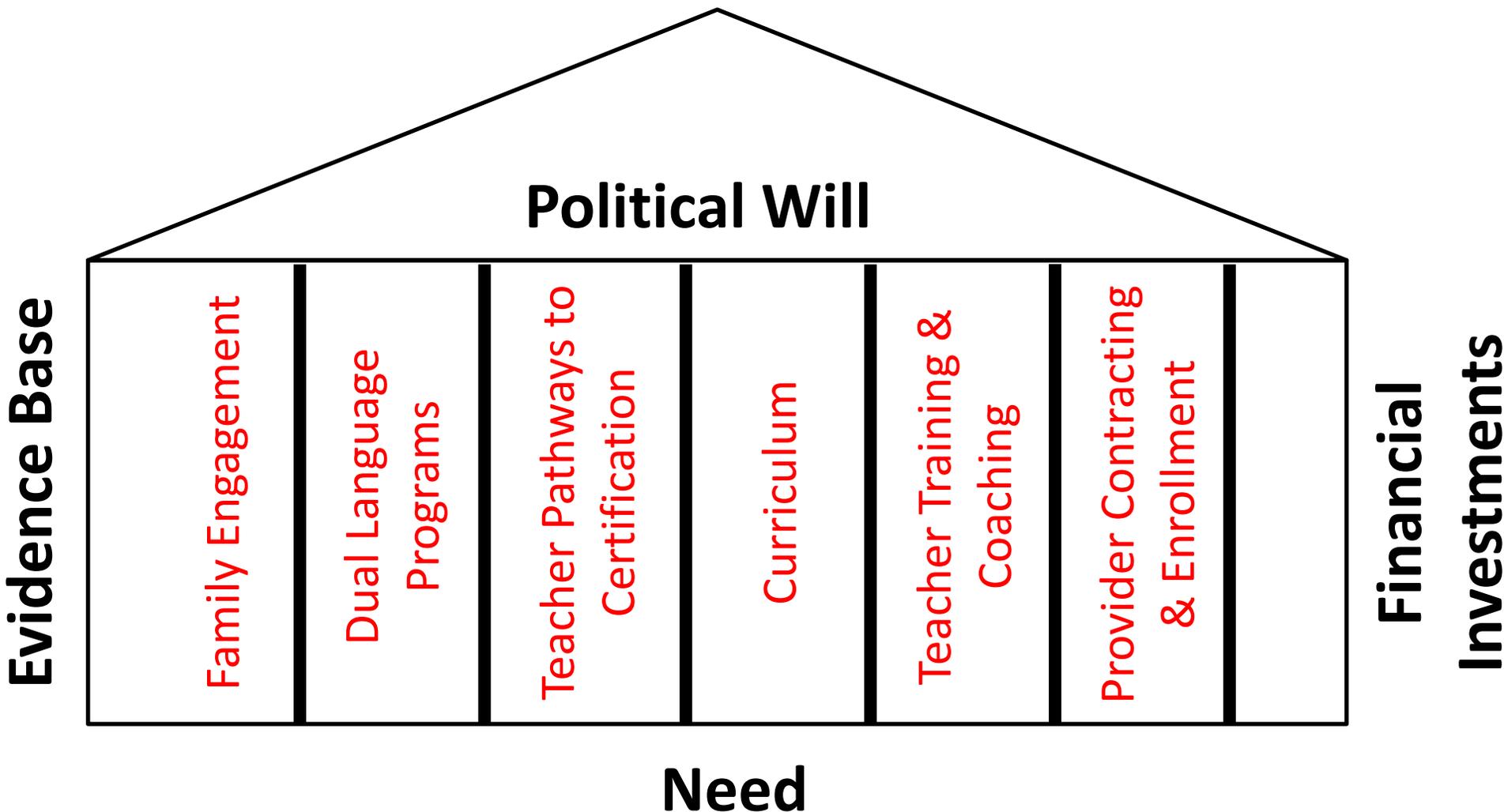
Holds everything up



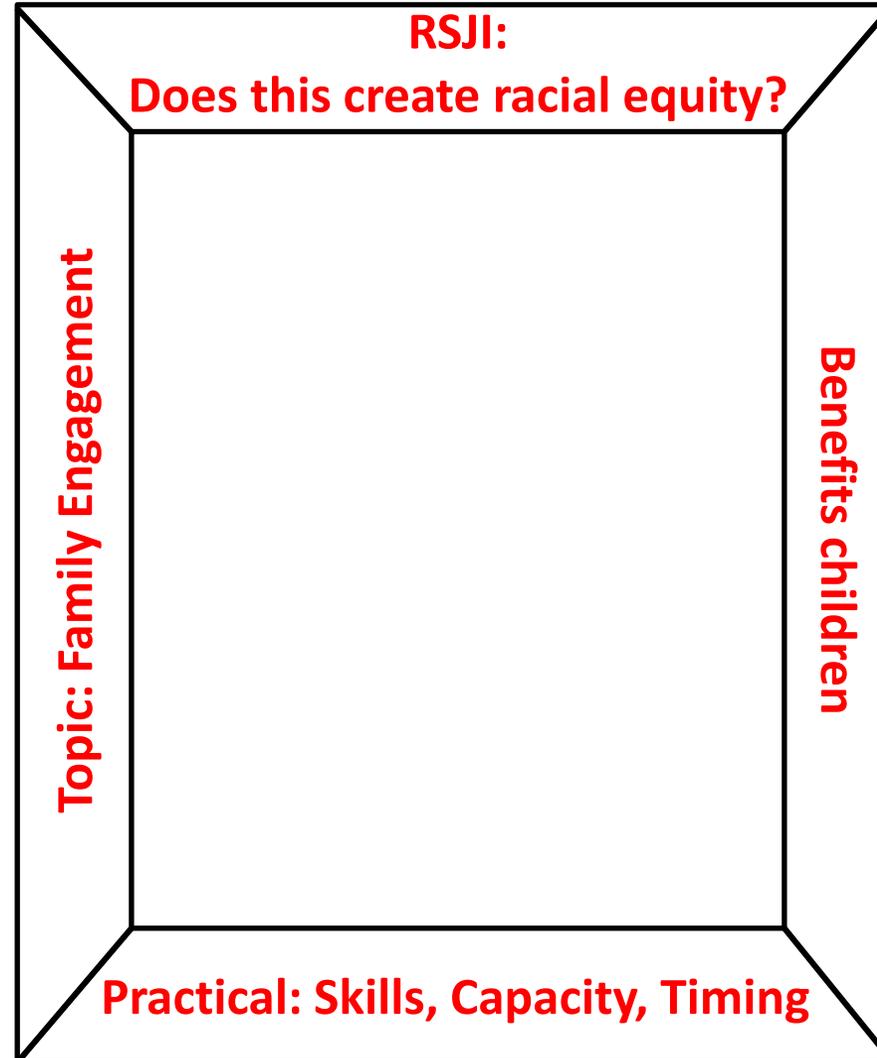
Picture frame

Hold everything in

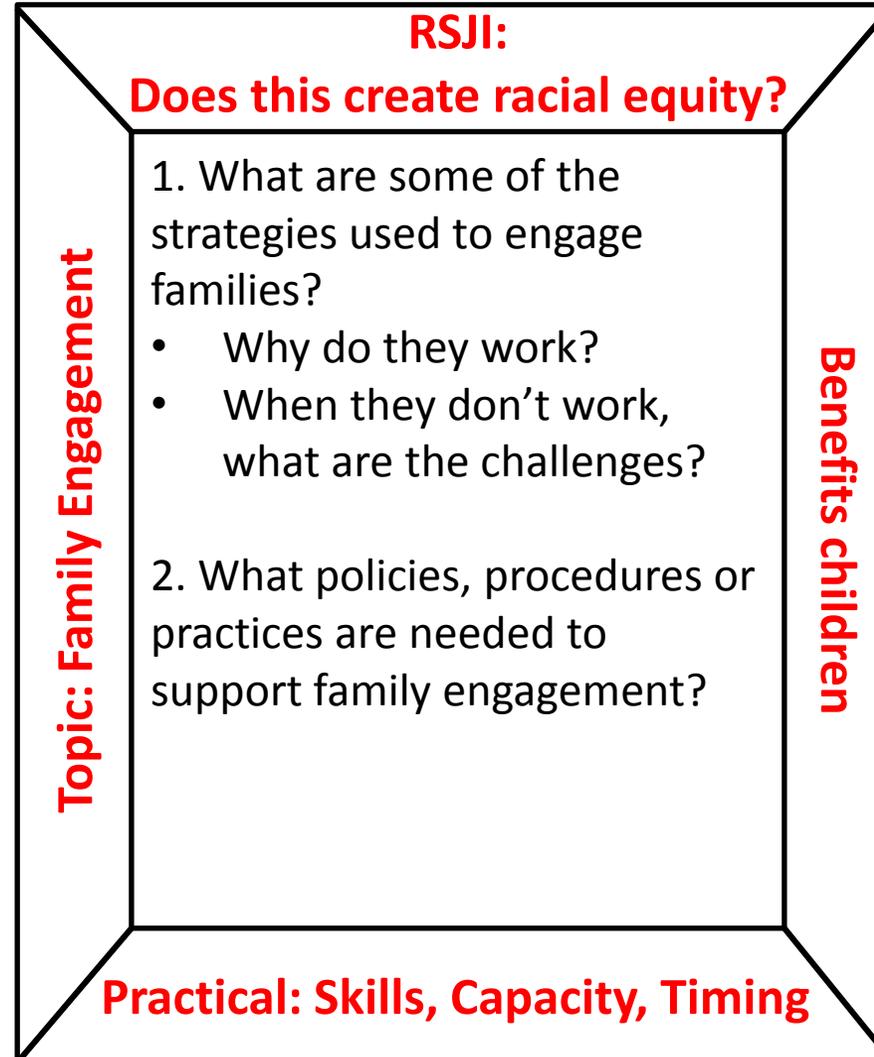
House Frame



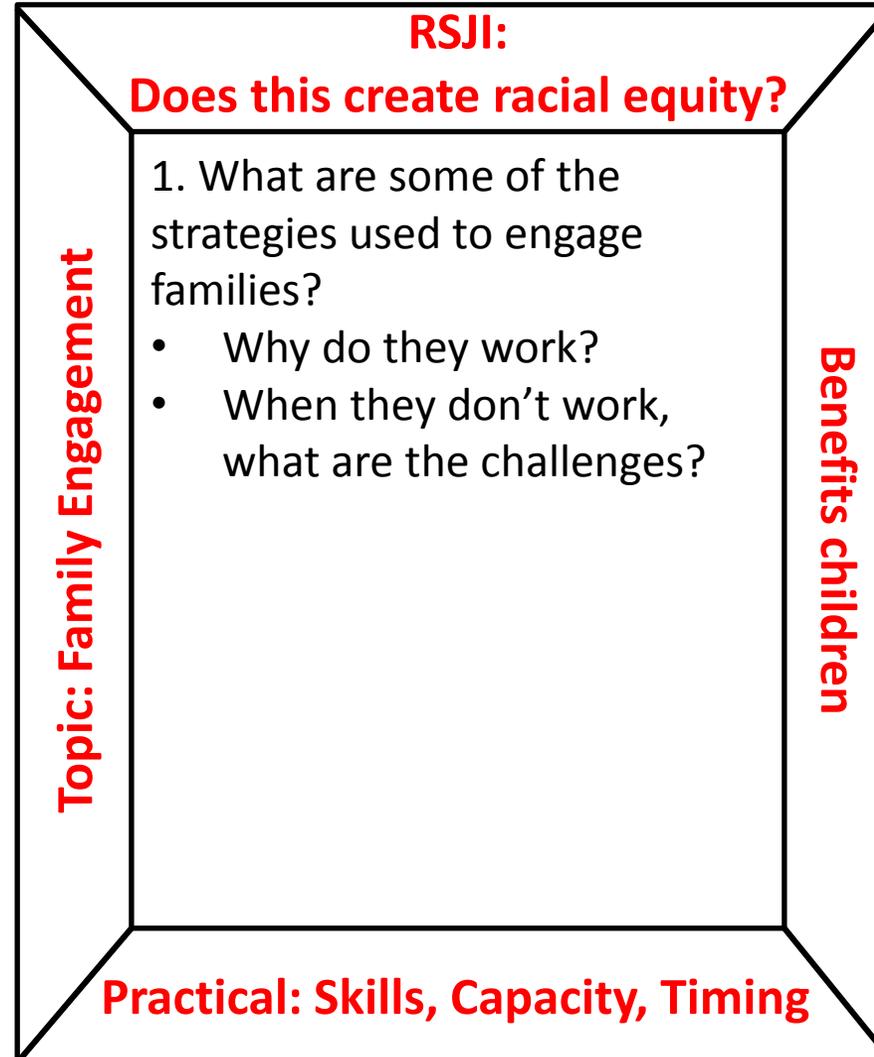
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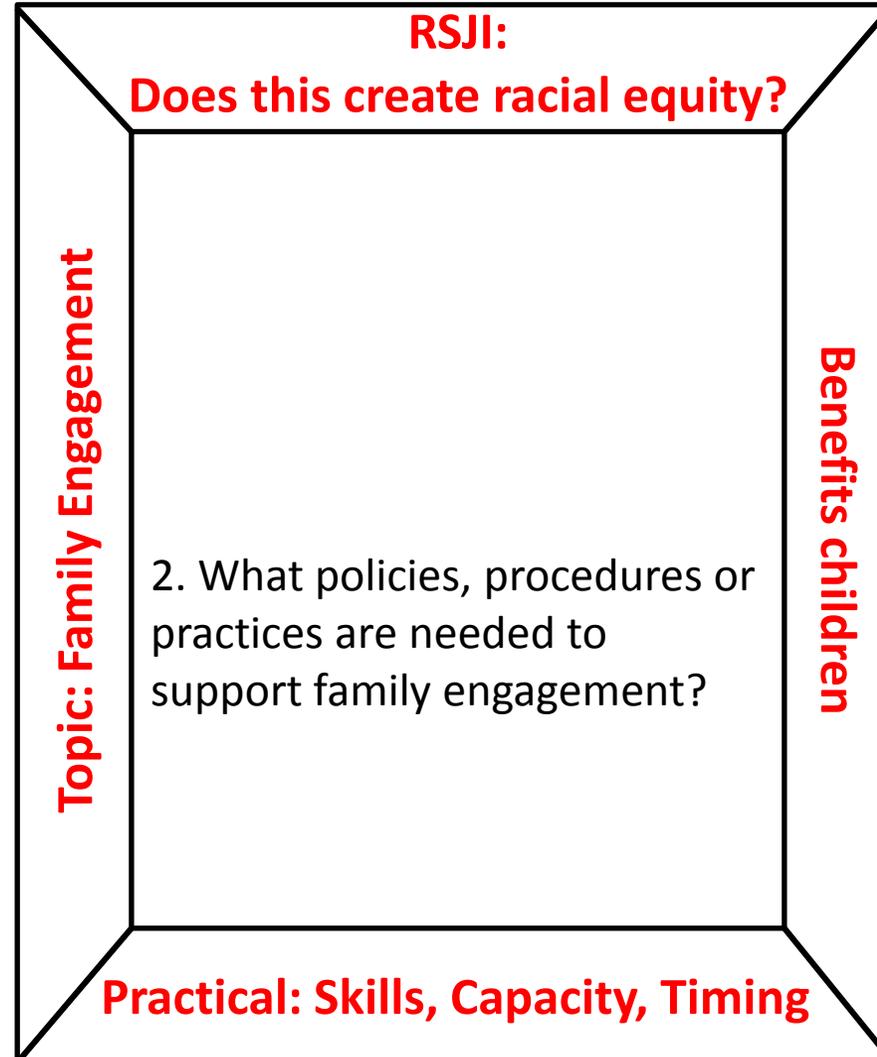
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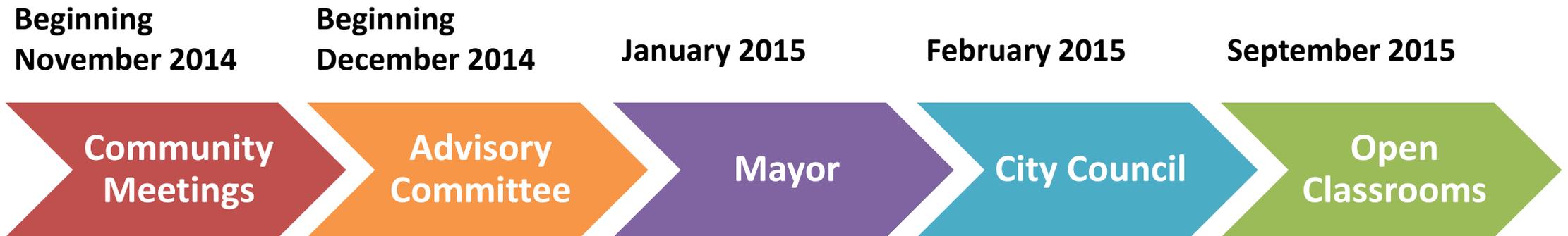
Discussion Q1



Discussion Q2



Implementation Planning Process



Today's Food



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est 1982

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Website: thephobac.com

Remaining Meetings

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  | <p><u>Family Engagement</u> Sat, Nov. 22, 2014 - 10am to 12:30pm Langston Hughes (104 17th Ave S, Seattle)</p> | | <p><u>Curriculum</u> Sat, Dec. 6, 2014 - 10am to 12:30pm Youngstown (4408 Delridge Way SW, Seattle)</p> |
| | <p><u>Dual Language Programs</u> Sat, Nov. 22, 2014 - 2pm to 4:30pm Langston Hughes (104 17th Ave S, Seattle)</p> | | <p><u>Teacher Training & Coaching</u> Sat, Dec. 6, 2014 - 2pm to 4:30pm Youngstown (4408 Delridge Way SW, Seattle)</p> |
| | <p><u>Teacher Pathways to Certification</u> Tue, Dec. 2, 2014 - 6pm to 8:30pm New Holly (7054 32nd Ave S, Seattle)</p> | | <p><u>Provider Contracting & Enrollment</u> Wed, Dec. 10, 2014 - 3pm to 5:30pm Phinney Center (6532 Phinney Ave N, Seattle)</p> |