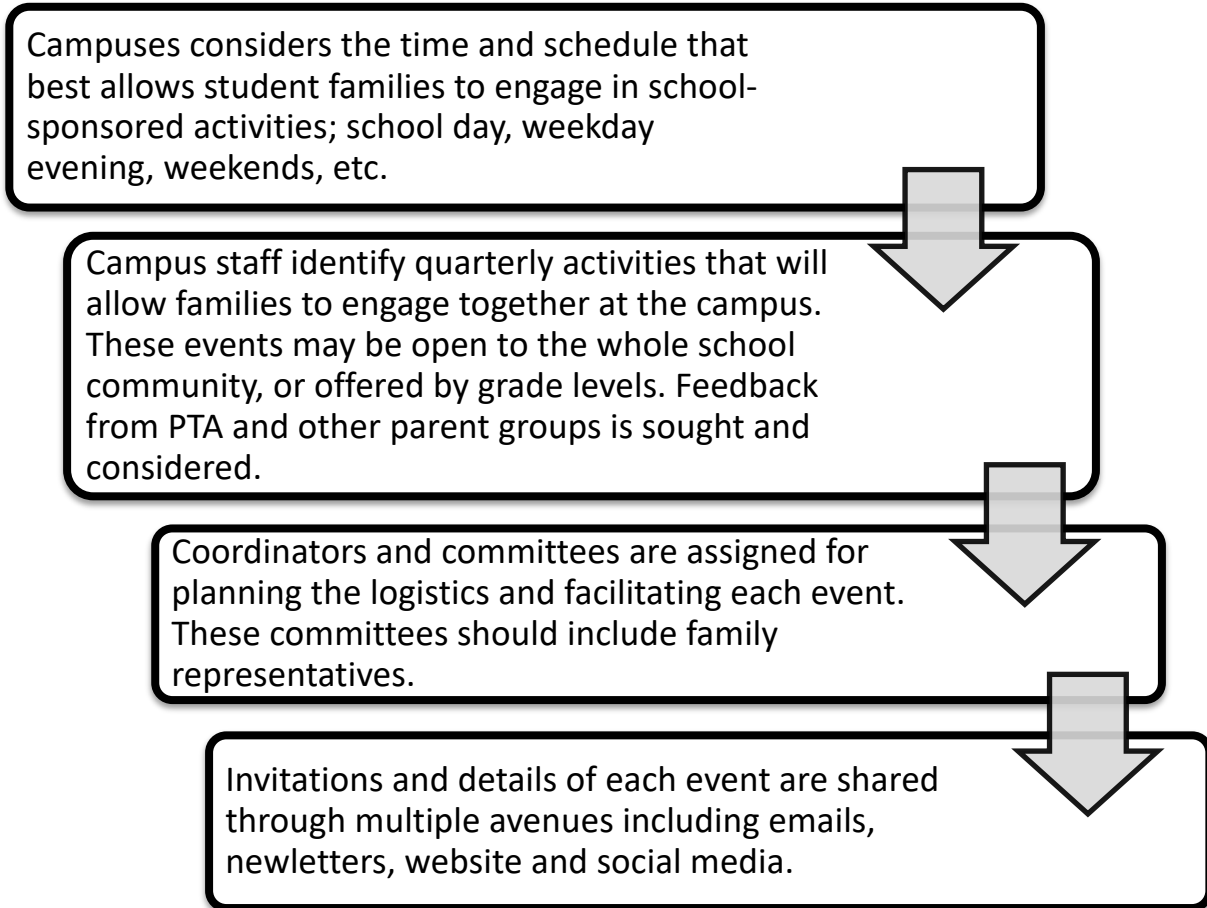


# Students & Home Connection

## Building Community

Students and families already have established relationships outside of the school environment. However, when schools offer opportunities for families to engage together within the school building, they can help support learning at all ages and strengthen connections within the surrounding community.



### Additional Considerations:

- Activities should not be planned only around what is convenient for school staff. Many families cannot engage at the school during the workday due to job constraints. Scheduling activities that take place only during the school day may limit the families who attend.
- Consider the home language preference of families when sending information/invitations and offer translation services during the event.
- Don't offer the same activities every year out of habit or tradition. Survey families and consider rates/ demographics of participation from previous years. Consider the following questions: Do all families engage? Do all families feel valued and welcomed at the event? Why might some families choose not to attend? How can the campus remove barriers that limit attendance?



# Building Community Ideas

## Examples

### Student led conferences

- *Students collect a portfolio of important work throughout the year*
- *School hosts meeting time/space on campus for students to share their work*
- *Families are provided with question stems to ask their student*

### School fair with family-sponsored booths

- *School campus hosts the event, but families provide the content*
- *Families sign up for a booth based on guidance from the campus*
- *Event is open to the community, staff attend and visit family booths*
- *Examples: Foodie Fest, Cultural Celebration*

### Family activity nights (games, art projects, invention/maker-stations)

- *School hosts structured events for families to have fun together and meet other families*
- *Examples: Make & take art projects, invention/maker stations, Minute to Win It games*

## Our Ideas

