



Culturally Responsive Family Engagement: Affirming Empowering and Partnering with Newcomers

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UPTOWN FUNK



So glad you are here!

Outcomes

- **Unpack the root cause of family under-engagement**
- **Examine innovative opportunities to partner with newcomer and culturally diverse families and school communities**
- **Explore practices that will empower families as their child's first teacher**
- **Walk away with strategies that build equitable and sustainable family engagement practices designed to affirm families in the margin**

Dance to Your Decade!

When did you start in education?

When did you begin your work in family engagement?

When did you become your child's first teacher?

70s



90s

80s



2000s

Dance to Your Decade!

When did you start in education?

When did you begin your work in family engagement?

When did you become your child's first teacher?

2010s



2020s

FCPS By The Numbers

Fairfax County Public Schools inspires and empowers students to meet high academic standards, lead healthy, ethical lives, and be responsible and innovative global citizens.

OUR SCHOOLS

Largest school division in Virginia

199 Schools and Centers

38,207 Employees ²

86% of our budget is spent on Instruction

185 ENERGY STAR schools

\$9 million in energy savings

ENROLLMENT ¹



178,394 FY23 Approved Budget Projected Enrollment ¹

179,122 Enrollment as of 9/8

Students come from **204** countries

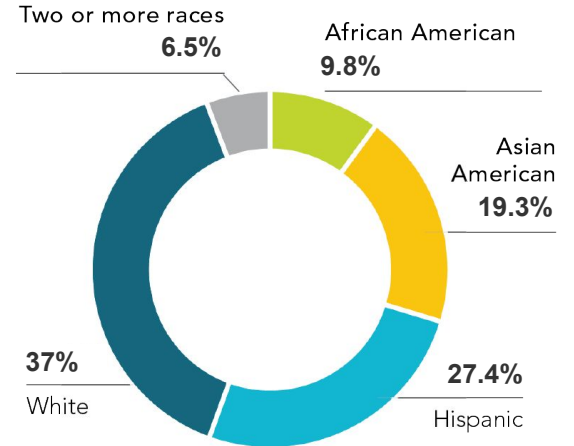
With over **200** different home languages

56,112 Economically Disadvantaged ⁴

33,806 English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) ⁴

26,828 Special Education ⁴

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS ³



Sources:

¹ FY 2023 FCPS Approved Budget. Includes students served at adult high school, multiagency, homeschool students receiving special education services, and private special education.

² Human Resources Information System data as of 9/8/22. Includes full-time, part-time, hourly, and substitute employees.

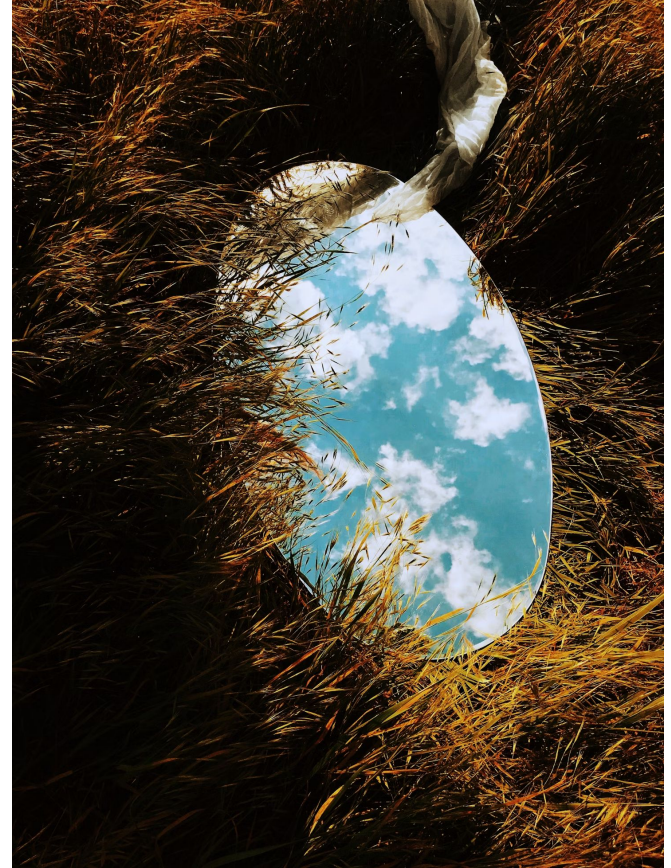
³ FCPS FY23 Approved Budget

⁴ FCPS FY23 Approved Budget, excludes students served at adult high school, multiagency, homeschool students receiving special education services, and private special education.

Pause and Reflect

When partnering with diverse school communities, what might you consider?

What might be some barriers to authentic partnerships?

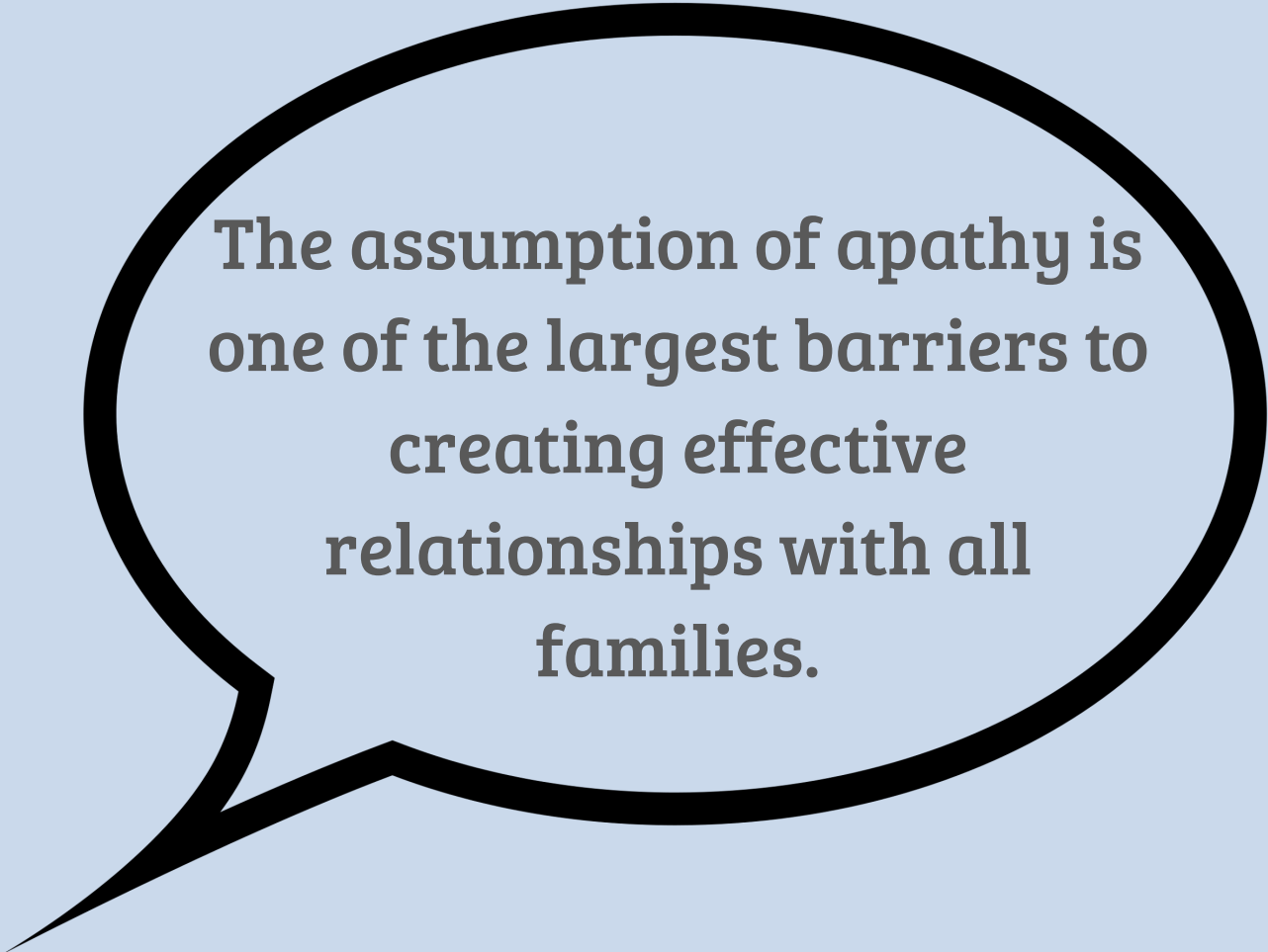


PLEASE SHARE

Culturally Responsive Family Engagement

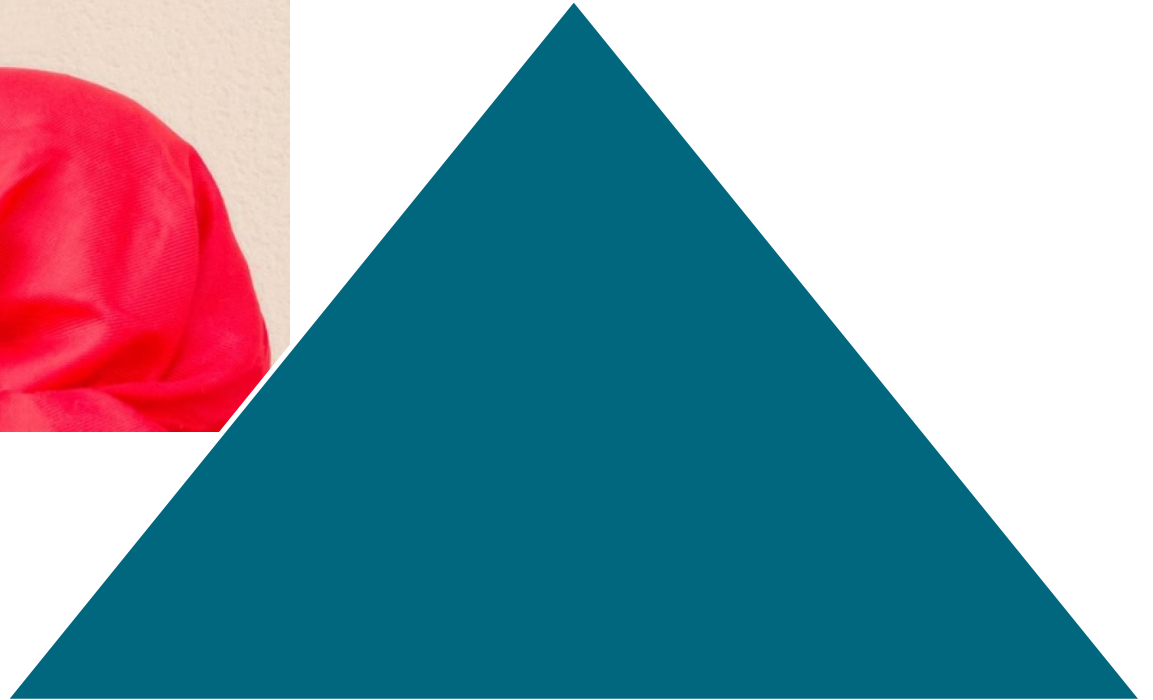
A Culturally Responsive Family Engagement approach involves practices that respect and acknowledge the cultural uniqueness, life experiences, and viewpoints of classroom families as well as draw on those experiences to enrich and energize the classroom curriculum and teaching activities, leading to respectful partnerships with students' families.

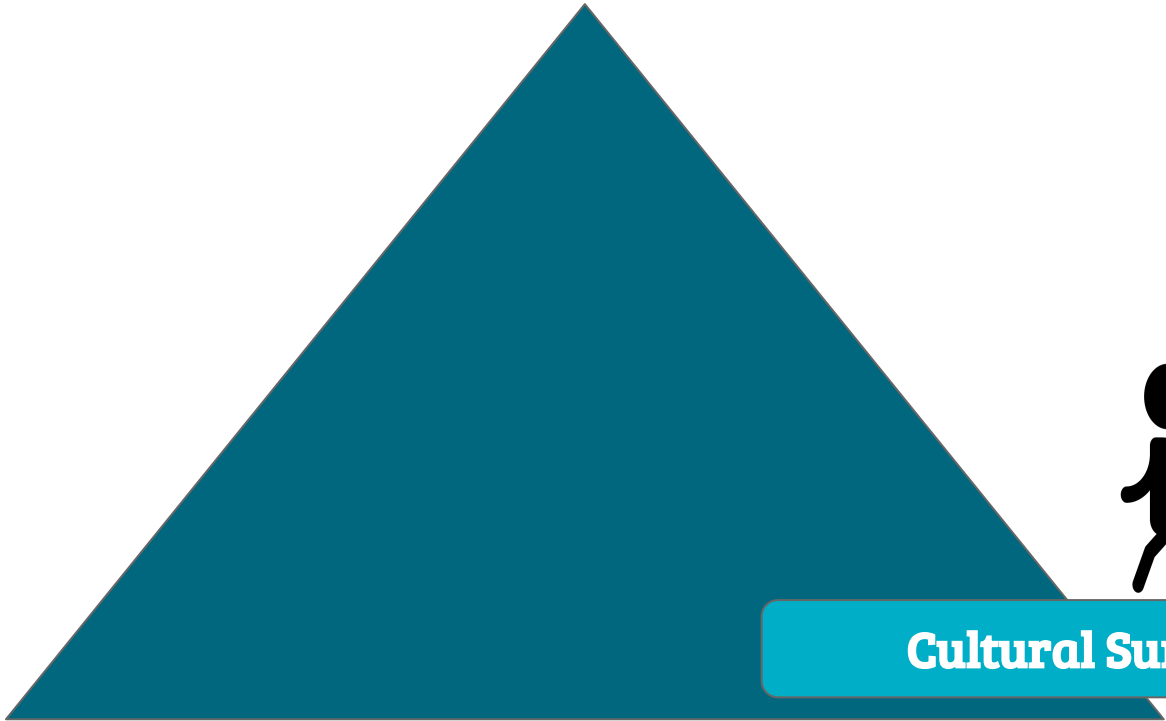




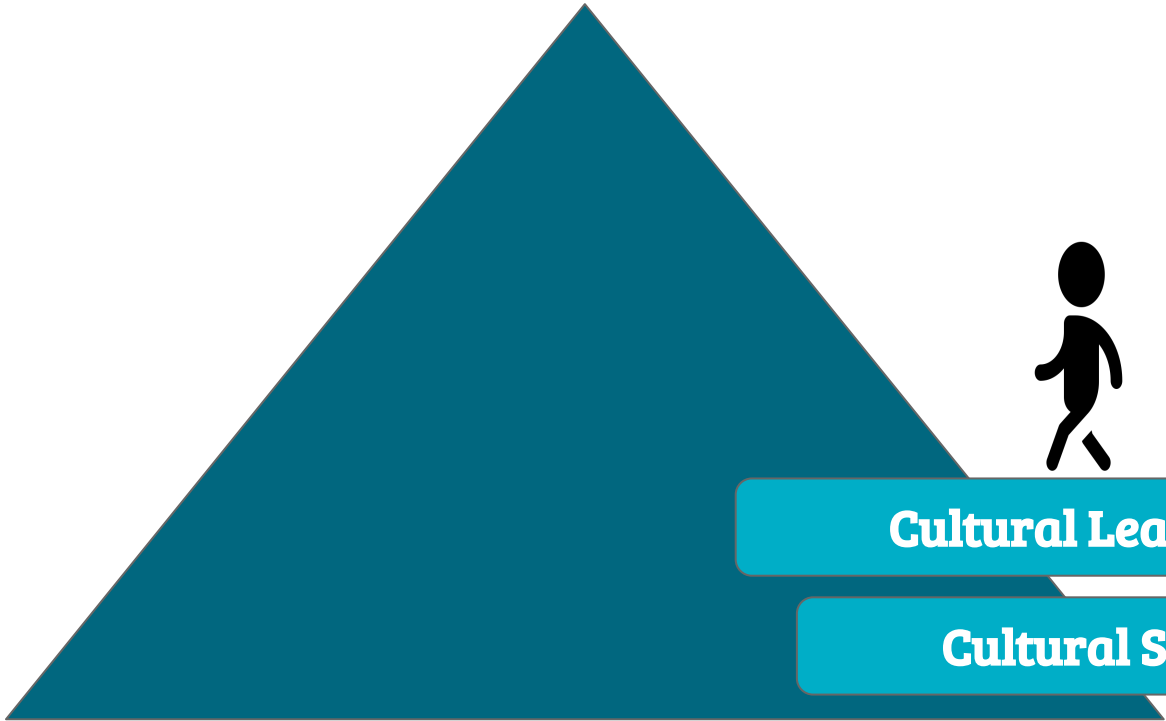
**The assumption of apathy is
one of the largest barriers to
creating effective
relationships with all
families.**

Stages of Immigrant Parent Involvement





Cultural Survivor



Cultural Learner

Cultural Survivor



Cultural Connector

Cultural Learner

Cultural Survivor



Cultural Leader

Cultural Connector

Cultural Learner

Cultural Survivor

Connect - Extend - Challenge

**How might this
connect to what you
already know?**

**What new ideas
do you have that
extended your
thinking in new
directions?**

**What do you
wonder
about?**



**LET'S
DISCUSS**

Step Inside

STEP ONE

First, choose a stage that you would like to “step inside”

Cultural Survivor,
Cultural Learner,
Cultural Connector,
or Cultural Leader

STEP TWO: Complete the thinking routine in that role

What might an authentic partnership look like?	As a family, how might my assets be honored and elevated?

PLEASE SHARE

- ❑ **Concise and translated communications to families**
- ❑ **Opportunities for two-way communication**
 - ❑ **Who is your child's favorite character in the book?**
 - ❑ **What do you think?**
- ❑ **Online tutorials on navigating school programs in native language**



Cultural Survivor

- ❑ **Concise and translated communications to families**
- ❑ **Opportunities for two-way communication**
- ❑ **Online tutorials on navigating school programs in native language**
- ❑ **Invitation to volunteer in the classroom**



Cultural Learner

Cultural Survivor

- ❑ **Concise and translated communications to families**
- ❑ **Opportunities for two-way communication**
- ❑ **Online tutorials on navigating school programs in native language**
- ❑ **Invitation to volunteer in the classroom**
- ❑ **Opportunities to become a classroom/school ambassador**

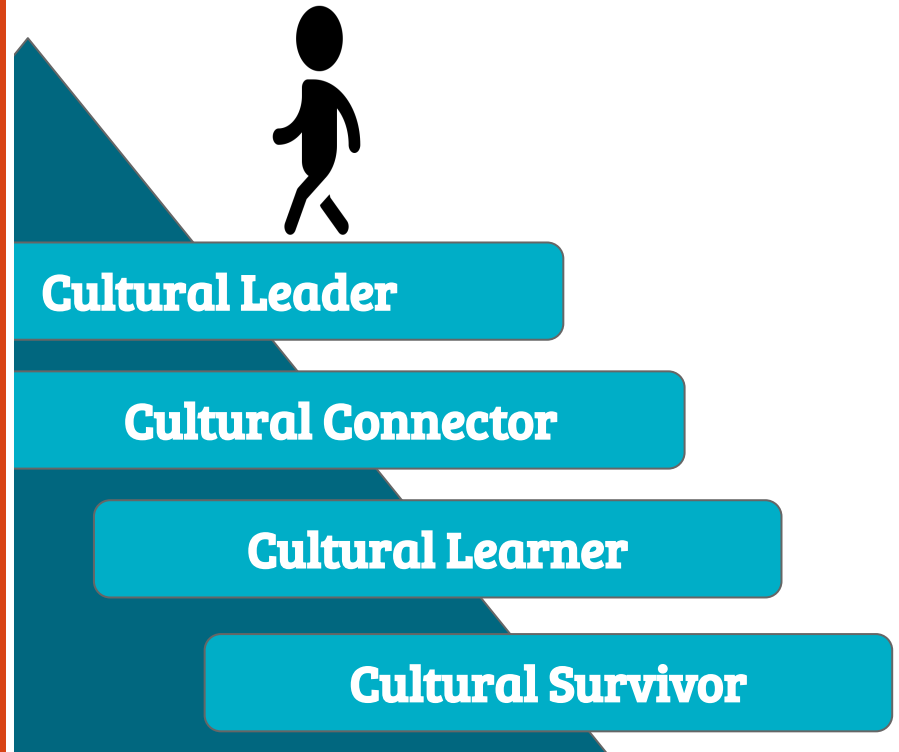


Cultural Connector

Cultural Learner

Cultural Survivor

- ❑ Opportunities for two-way communication
- ❑ Online tutorials on navigating school programs in native language
- ❑ Invitation to volunteer in the classroom
- ❑ Opportunities to become a classroom/school ambassador
- ❑ Joining Family Council or Advisory Boards



Three Balloons



Imagine you have three balloons on which there is space to write one word or phrase capturing an important idea from today's session.

Jot your three ideas.

Contact Information



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