

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

# Strengthening Home, School & Community through Diverse Family Partnerships

Kimberli Breen, Arisleyda Taylor,  
Terry Mitchell-Morgan

The background features a complex, abstract design of overlapping, semi-transparent blue polygons in various shades, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The rest of the background is plain white.

Abbreviated presentation

# About this session

- ▶ Learn practices for engaging diverse family partnerships
- ▶ Review **systems** for maintaining diverse family partnerships
- ▶ Obtain a deeper understanding of the **benefits** of diverse family partnerships

# Personal stories from:

- ▶ Faith
- ▶ Leadership
- ▶ Special needs
- ▶ Autism
- ▶ Race/Ethnicity
- ▶ Community
- ▶ Language
- ▶ Dentistry
- ▶ Neighbors

# Arisleyda

...change comes by  
“readying the people in the school and  
district to act empowered to implement  
changes they envision for their school,  
and to access the resources  
they need to make these changes”

(McCart et al., in press, p. 8)

(SWIFT: Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation)



**SCHOOL DISTRICT SPONSORED  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES**

# Hispanic Parent Leadership Institute / African-American Parent Leadership Institute



- ▶ Hispanic Parent Leadership Institute created in 2010
- ▶ African American Parent Leadership created in 2011
- ▶ Goal: Increase parental involvement in SD U-46
- ▶ Attract parents who know little about U-46 & train them to become active participants in the education system
- ▶ After completing institutes, many parents serve in leadership roles on Citizens' Advisory Council, PTO & Board of Education
- ▶ Many parents then recruit other parents/community members



# Working together: Both Parent Leadership Institutes





<http://youtu.be/t8V4PPBo97g>

## U46 School District Parent Leadership



# Terry

“... (a) people, organizations and surrounding communities have strengths and resources (Rapp, Saleebey, & Sullivan, 2005), and (b) that they can be resilient, resourceful and capable of learning new strategies to overcome adversity and move in the direction of their shared vision (Pulla, 2012)” (McCart et al., p. 3)

(SWIFT: Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation)

# Special Education Awareness Event



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

# *Certificate of Membership*

*Be it known that*

*Jerry Mitchell*

*is a duly elected member of the Lions Club of*

*Bolingbrook*

*in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association.*

*In witness whereof this Certificate of Membership has been*

*issued this 5th day of January 2015*





# About My Family

# Driven by Concerns

- ▶ Parents from different ‘sides of town’ had different image on what resources should be provided in school
- ▶ Suburban parents of the metropolitan area were not aware of Title I PAC; thought of ‘parent engagement’ only in terms of PTA/O
- ▶ When attended PTA conference, no mention of special education
- ▶ 2012 Teacher Preparation Study conveyed 66% of respondents had no previous coursework in how to work w. children with learning disabilities



# NEEDS/CHALLENGES in Some PBIS Schools

- ▶ Parents were not aware that this behavior model existed at their school
- ▶ Parents were not knowledgeable on how this behavior model operated & how this model held everyone accountable
  - ▶ Not informed how they could use same practices at home
- ▶ Data tracking submitted to parents was subjective & did not follow the Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 framework for positive intervention
- ▶ Parents shared that they felt bullied by school administrators and staff resulting in an unfriendly school environment

Video Link



RDQ 13 Room 2

# Equity: How Can We Partner with Families?

3:45pm - 4:30pm

# Contact Us

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