

The National Center for Families Learning

Building the Case for Parent Engagement

Why is parent engagement in their children's education so important? It's an easy question to answer. We all want more for our children, for our families, for our communities, and our nation. A more difficult question to answer is how can we achieve it?

When you consider what research tells us, this is a tremendous opportunity for FACE parents to engage in furthering their own education while supporting their children's educational achievement.

- The performance advantage among students whose parents read to them in their early school years is evident regardless of the family's socioeconomic background.
- Parent involvement is directly tied to student performance and has a sustained impact.

These statements tell us that the challenge is daunting but also confirm the tremendous opportunity all parents have when they are engaged in their children's education. So, what does address the answer?

- FACE helps families and the educators working with them to turn the parent-child relationships into a dynamic driver for educational progress in both center-based and home-based services.
- The unique component of Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time® is an example of this philosophy in action.

It is clear from over 27 years of research studies done by Research & Training Associates, Inc. (RTA), on the implementation of the FACE, that this work is clearly supporting evidence of gains that can be made when parents are immersed in their children's education.

The National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) sums this up in the following statement.

"We exist to create a culture of family engagement across the educational spectrum, bridging resources and creating solutions that work for today's families."

*Portions of this document are taken from the NCFL publication
"Families Learning Together – 2015."*