

**Common Barriers Hindering Family and Community Engagement  
& Successful Strategies to Overcome Them**

Lack of Relationship Building Between and School Officials and Parents	
Lack of Trust in School Officials	
Parents' and School Officials' Beliefs and Assumptions Engender Fear and Mistrust	
Lack of Cultural Competency Creates Unwelcoming Environments for Ethnic Minority Parents	
Lack of Understanding of the Roles and Responsibilities of the Local School District and School Board	
Lack of Funding and Coordination of Resources to Provide Services to Parents	
Failure to Prioritize Parent Engagement	
Failure to Adjust to the Role of Parent Involvement in the 21st Century	
Lack of Understanding about special education services and other supports for students' learning and behavior needs	

Adapted from: *Minority Parent and Community Engagement: Best Practices and Policy Recommendations for Closing the Gaps in Student Achievement*, Published June 2010 by Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and National Education Association of the United States

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