

## **Family Engagement Night Themes**

### **School Safety**

Since the recent events in Connecticut, this would be the time to bring in community members (police, fire, parents, and businesses) to discuss and plan how to increase the security of students while at school. Brainstorm ideas, form plans, get commitments, make assignments, and carry out your school safety plan.

### **Bullying Prevention**

There are HUNDREDS of websites and pamphlets about Bullying Prevention. Student/Parent/Teacher roundtables are a great way to have conversations about Bullying Prevention

### **Reading and Reviewing Together**

Provide a space where students and parents can write a book review and post it. Ask students read to parents or read together. Have them discuss the book write a review of the book for others.

### **All Things Games**

Students, parents, and teachers provide games (board, video, active movement, etc.) and spend time playing the games.

### **Math Magicians**

Have an evening with Math games, Math manipulatives, online Math games, etc. Have parents and students work together to provide support of basic Math concepts.

### **Scientists Wanted**

Do you have science experiments to do, but not enough class time? Make one of your monthly parent meetings a "Science Experiment Night."

### **Dancing With the Stars**

Kids LOVE to dance...all ages. Have an evening of teaching students and parents the Electric Slide, the Hustle, the Twist, etc.

### **Starry, Starry Night**

Have an evening of "star gazing" and identification of constellations and planets.

### **Movie Date Family Style**

Most schools now have digital projectors. Have families bring movies, vote on a movie, make/sell popcorn, and enjoy an evening of movie watching.

### **Computer Safety**

This is a great opportunity to inform parents and students about the dangers of online scams and predators. There are several websites that provide power points and pamphlets to use and distribute.

### **Cool Kids Cooking**

Obesity is a huge issue in Oklahoma. Have discussions and provide ingredients for parents and students to make "HEALTHY" snacks and meals. Allow students to choose the menu. Great for ALL age levels.

### **Community Service**

Nothing brings a community together like a "need". Find a need in your community, create this as a Community Service project and strengthen community binds.

### **Rev up for Test**

Keeping parents in the loop around state testing time is essential. Host a "Pep Rally" right before testing begins. Go over the essentials needs that parents must know before testing. Get everyone REVVED UP for the test.

### **Career Paths**

This is a great opportunity for parents to share with student what their career is and why they chose that path. Most parents are looking for a way to "plug-in" to school, but they need a job. Let them take center stage with a Career Night.

### **Artists in the House**

Many restaurants are currently providing an opportunity for "non-artists" to feel like a "Master" when it comes to art. Schools can get their high school art teacher (or a local artist) and allow parents and students to follow along to create a painting.

### **Check it Out – Library**

During Book Fair week, this is a great opportunity to have parents and students come in to the school library to check out WHAT'S NEW. The librarian can present the new books and the books that are available for sale at the Book Fair.

### **Let's Get Physical**

Have an evening of Teacher vs. Parent basketball or volleyball games. Or, have everyone go through an obstacle course and compete on time.

### **Sound Celebrations**

Using recycled materials (paper towel rolls, oatmeal containers, etc.) have the students and parents make sound instruments. Have a rehearsal and performance of a song.

### **Exploring our Community**

Bring in different community members (including police, fire, business) to talk about the community and its history. Plan a "walk or ride about" throughout the community to showcase those features.

**Celebrating Achievement**

Once the state tests have been taken, have an evening of celebration for completing the test. This can also be done at the beginning of the school year when results from the previous year's state tests have been received.

**Music, Music, Music**

Have an evening of music filled fun. This can look many different ways; students performing, parents performing, karaoke, playing Name That Tune, etc.

**What Do I Need to Graduate?**

This is an excellent topic for those parents of students entering or getting ready to enter into high school. The ACE requirements can be reviewed PRIOR to students enrolling into high school courses and parents and students alike will be aware of the requirements.

**Volunteers Wanted**

Do your teachers need help with classroom tasks? Have a "Job Fair" event for parents to volunteer. Again, many parents want to help, but need a task or job to be assigned to help. But, you have to ask!

**Alumni Hall of Fame**

Recognition is vital to everyone. Create an "Alumni Hall of Fame" for those who have completed school at your site. Alumni that have students will feel welcomed and take pride/ownership in the school. This is also a great way to build school pride in the entire student population.

