



**Tennessee TSC**  
Tiered Supports Center

# The Power of Unity Among Key Collaborators in Education

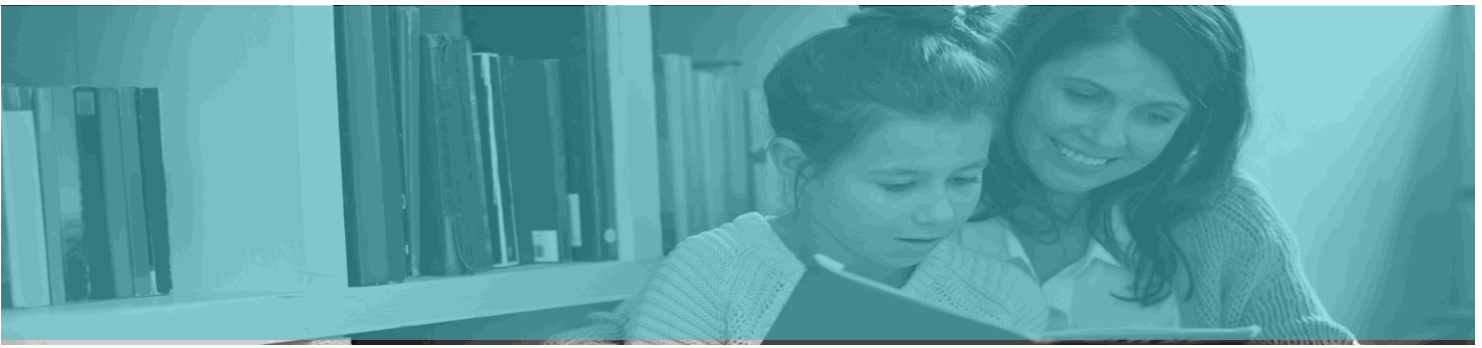
The Tennessee Department of Education highlights the significant impact of solid collaboration between schools, families, and communities on student success. Students are more likely to exhibit academic and behavioral improvements when these key collaborators work together (Tennessee Department of Education, 2024). Academic improvement can be displayed by students achieving higher grades, scoring better on assessments, enrolling in advanced classes, graduating from high school, and pursuing further education (Tennessee Department of Education, 2024). Also, when families actively engage in their child's education, students are more likely to exhibit positive behavior, maintain regular school attendance, and develop healthier social skills (Tennessee Department of Education, 2024). While student success is the primary goal of all collaboration, all collaborators experience individual or collective benefits from supporting students in schools (Mapp, 2022). This brief shares benefits to educators and schools, families, and communities when families and communities are actively involved in schools (Mapp et al., 2022; Ross, 2023).

## Educator and School Benefits

Active support from parents and community members brings benefits to educators and the school as a whole.

- **Increased Job Satisfaction:** Active family involvement helps build teacher-student relationships, leading to a more fulfilling teaching environment. Educators can experience greater job satisfaction when they have strong relationships with their students and families, thereby increasing teacher retention (Ross, 2023).
- **Enhanced School Culture and Climate:** Schools that prioritize family engagement often see a positive shift in their culture and climate. As students and families feel more valued and supported, the school's overall atmosphere becomes more welcoming and inclusive (White, 2021).





## Family Benefits

Active participation in a student's education supports student success and substantially benefits families.

- **Strengthened Parent-Child Connection:** Engaging in a child's education enhances the overall family dynamic. It can foster open communication, build trust, and enhance the bond between parents and children, making the relationship more resilient and supportive (Ross, 2023).
- **Access to Resources:** Families actively engaged with the school community gain access to a wealth of resources. These may include academic support services, nutritional programs, and essential healthcare information, all of which can contribute to the family's well-being and success (Ross, 2023).

## School District and Community Benefits

- **Improved place to live:** When students engage in fewer challenging, high-risk behaviors, the community becomes a better place to live and raise children (Ross, 2023).
- **Increased participation in community:** Improvements for students within the school setting provide greater opportunities for participation in afterschool programs (e.g., Amateur Athletic Union teams, youth facing clubs, and organizations). Positive students also provide a healthy part-time work force for local businesses (Ross, 2023).

When key collaborators work together, everyone benefits. The Tennessee Tiered Supports Center underscores the importance of fostering these collaborations to create a more supportive, effective, and enriching educational experience for all collaborators.

## References

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- Tennessee Department of Education. (2024). Family and Community Engagement. <https://www.tn.gov/education/families/family-community-engagement.html>
- White, A., Singleton, F., Smith, T., and Hershfeldt, P. (2021, June). *Enhancing family-school collaboration with diverse families*. Center on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports. <https://www.pbis.org/resource/enhancing-family-school-collaboration-with-diverse-families>