



Building school community, one conversation at a time.

# ¡Intercambio!



- Introductions
- The Intercambio Story

# Who are you?

## Stand and say, That's Me!



- English is your first language.
- Spanish is your first language.
- Another language is your first language.
- Show on your fingers (1-5) your proficiency in English/Spanish
- Are you a parent/teacher/administrator/other?



# Session Objectives



- experience an intercambio (language exchange)
- gain an understanding of how this program is a powerful way to engage families
- empower schools to begin their own journeys to involve diverse families



H.B.Lee Middle School

# What is parent involvement?



Think about family/parent involvement at your school.

Is there a sense of community? Who participates? Does participation represent the diversity of your population?

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When do parents come to school?

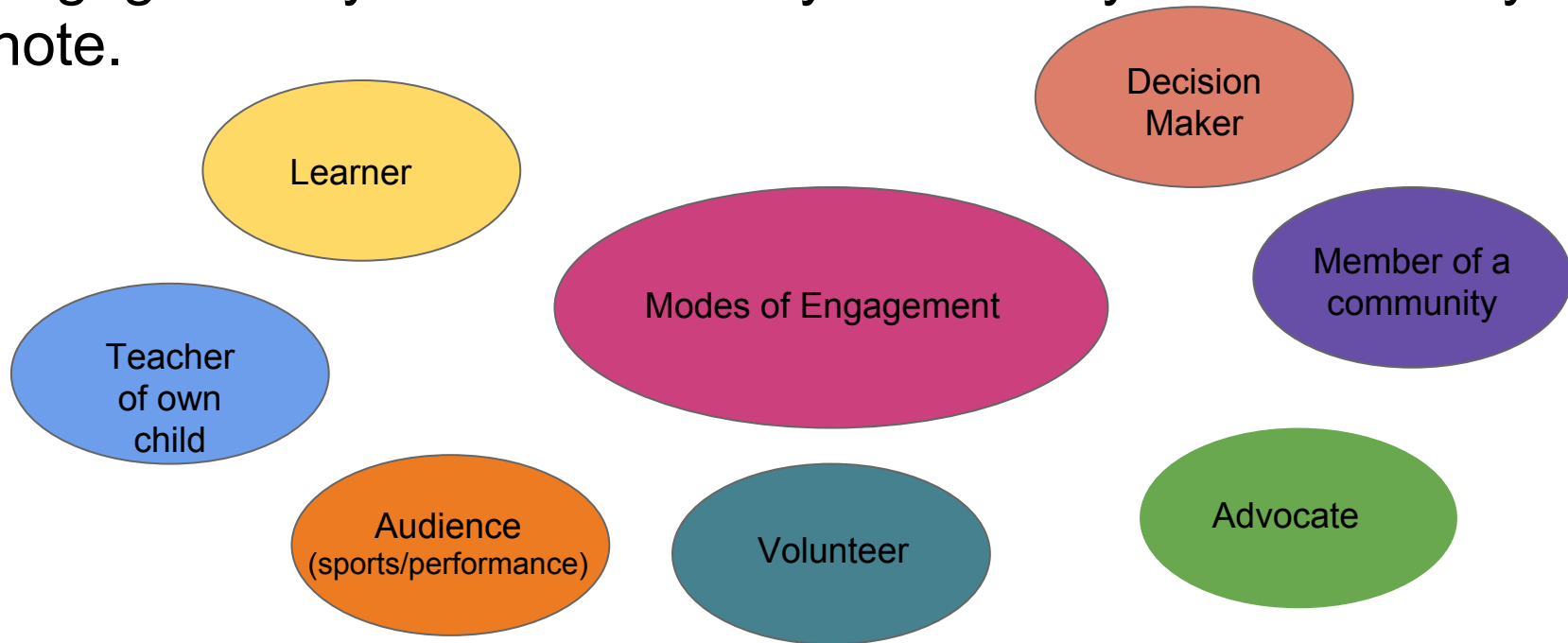
What are some of the efforts/activities at your school to involve families?

Record one idea per sticky note.

# Modes of Engagement



Share with a small group and decide under which mode of engagement you would classify the activity on each sticky note.



# Mission and Vision



## MISSION

We empower families and educators to build strong school communities that embrace language and cultural diversity.

## VISION

We envision a world with thriving school communities where families and educators are engaged in trusting relationships that foster respect, celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity, and reflect true partnership that give all students an equal opportunity to succeed.



# Goals of an Intercambio



1. Increase bilingual skills and comfort level for all participants, therefore leading to increased communication.
2. An opportunity for authentic, relationship-based parent engagement between parents and school staff members.



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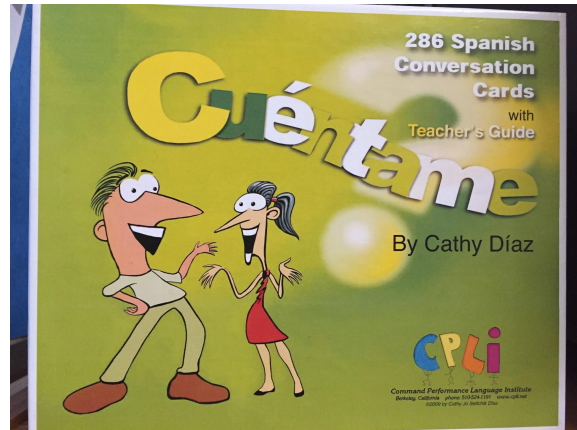
# How it works...

- People (parents, teachers, school community members) come together to practice Spanish and English for an hour each week in a comfortable, encouraging environment.
- Simple games and materials enhance the language acquisition process and connections between participants.
- Typically, the hour is spent  $\frac{1}{2}$  in Spanish,  $\frac{1}{2}$  in English.



# Resources

exchange to engage



# Agreements

- We are here to practice language, build community.
- We accept everyone.
- We encourage each other.
- We will try to speak in another language.
- If there are problems, we let the facilitator know.
- We will laugh at ourselves!



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# Intercambio Experience

- Introductions
- Cuentamé (Spanish)
- Name things that \_\_\_\_\_.  
(English)
- Conversation Dice



## Introducciones / Introductions

Cuál es tú nombre? Comó te llamas?	What is your name?
Mi nombre es _____. Me llamo _____.	My name is _____. _____.
Tienes hijos? Dime sobre sus hijos.	Do you have children? Tell me about your children.
Tengo ____ hijos (as). No tengo hijos.	I have ___ children. I don't have any children.

# Reflection



Take 5 to talk with a partner:  
How did you feel during the Spanish portion?

How did you feel during the English portion?

What did you learn?

Other thoughts?

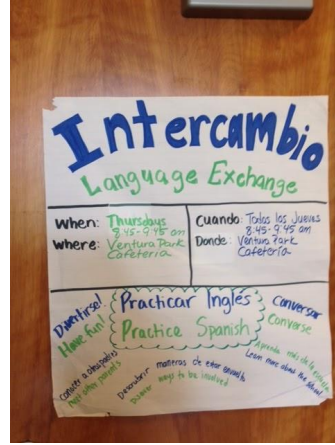
Tome 5 minutos hablar con una pareja:  
Cómo se sentía durante la parte en Español?

Cómo se sentía durante la parte en Inglés?

Qué aprendió?

Otras ideas o reflexiones?

# Friendship, Fellowship, Food





# Building Community





We live in a  
multilingual  
world!



## Many programs are seeking **meaningful** parent involvement

- Dual Capacity-Building Framework
- Title I
- Title III
- Community Partner Program Goals
- 21st Century Grant
- SUN Programs

# Meaningful Opportunities



Immigration workshops

Food pantry

Oregon Promise

Benefits of bilingualism

School events

Volunteer opportunities

Connect parents to district staff

Self-advocacy

Support for families in need

Juntos Aprendemos-(bilingual preschool program)

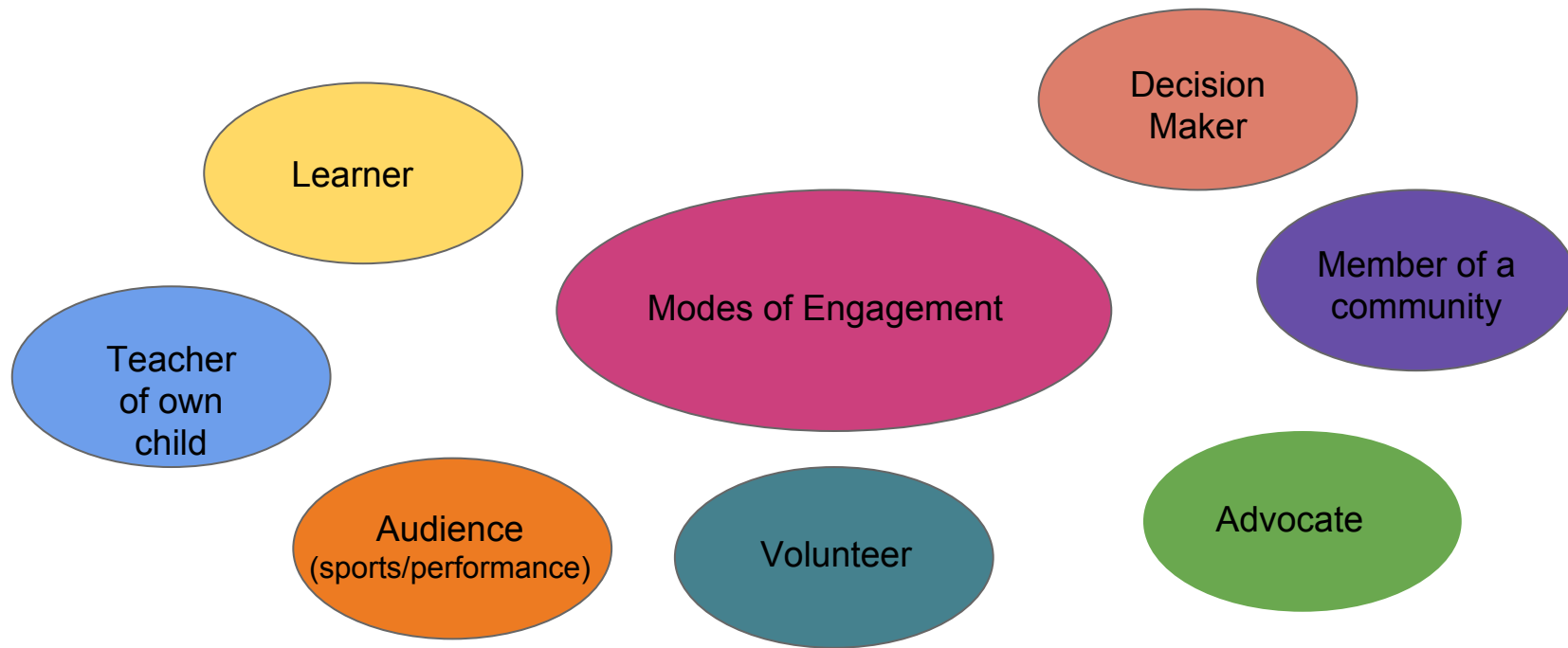
Friendship

Community connections





# Meaningful Parent Engagement Creative Solutions



# Impact on School Culture



Ventura Park Elementary





# Impact on Educators



Video of Elaine Kristensen - Reading Specialist



# Darbi - Parent



# Tips and Pointers



- stick with it, it takes time to build relationships
- essential to have a team of 2-4 committed staff members
- experiment to find the right time
- allow children to attend with parents
- create a cart
- network with community partners



# Commit to an Action Step



- start an intercambio at your school
- analyze your current efforts to engage diverse families
- give us feedback or ideas to strengthen our program
- tell your colleagues and friends about Exchange to Engage and its potential
- step out of your comfort zone

# Questions / Feedback?

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