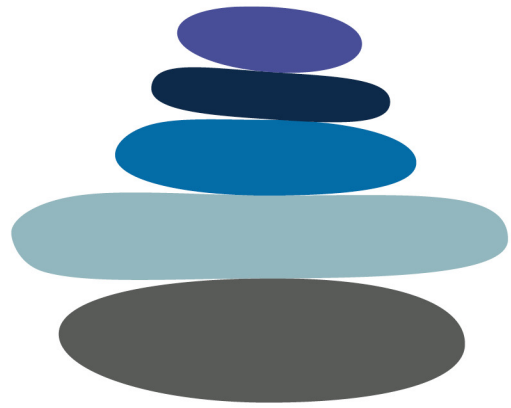


Good afternoon!

- For today's session, you will need:
 - Maine DOE SLIFE Padlet (bit.ly/MaineSLIFE-Padlet)
 - Google Folder Resources (bit.ly/MaineSLIFE-3)



SupportEd

Supporting SLIFE Family and Community Engagement

Maine Department of Education

November 17, 2022

Thank you!



Session Facilitator



Diane Staehr Fenner, PhD
President, SupportEd



@DStaehrFenner

Session Facilitator



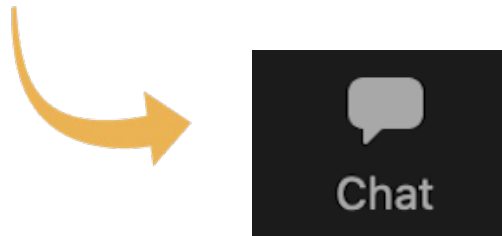
Shannon Smith, MEd
ML Coach, SupportEd



@educ8orSmith

Before We Get Started: Zoom Tip

Click the **'Chat' button** to ask any questions



*** Chat messages from
the SupportEd team (e.g., relevant
links, technical support) will start and
end with **three asterisks**. ***

Virtual Session Norms

- **Ways of participating**
 - Share through audio and video with whole group
 - Share through audio and video in breakout rooms
 - Write in chat
- **Independent work**
 - Turn off video while working independently
 - Turn on video when ready to return to whole group



SLIFE PD Overview (Document 1)

Session Number	Topic	Date
1	Culturally Responsive Teaching and Social Emotional Learning for SLIFE	September 22, 2022
2	Effective Instruction of SLIFE	October 20, 2022
3	Supporting SLIFE Family and Community Engagement	November 17, 2022
4	Supporting Graduation and Post-Secondary Success of SLIFE	December 15, 2022



Previous Session Feedback

Glows

- Concrete tools and strategies
- Collaboration with colleagues

Grows

- Different groupings
- Less presentation time

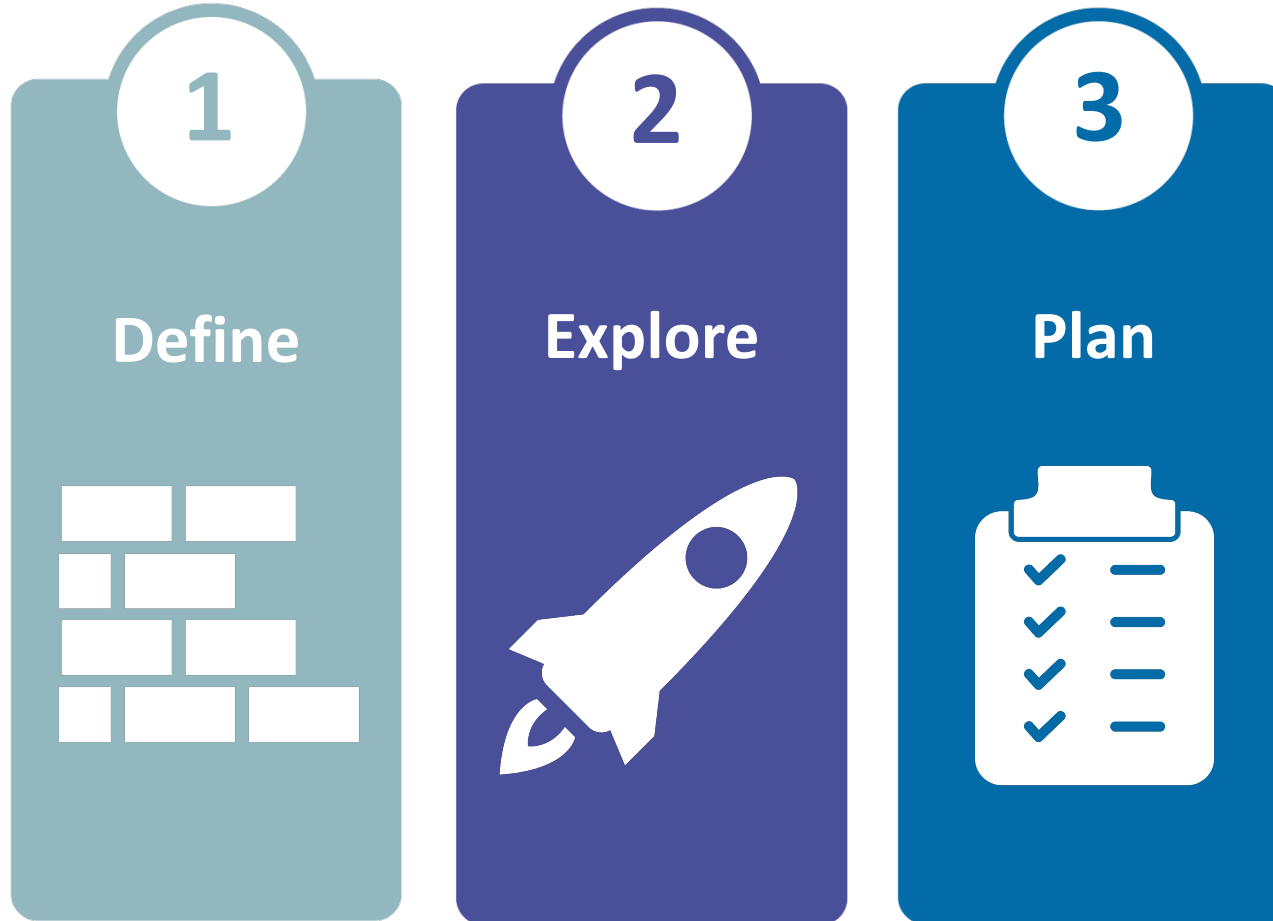
Based on Previous Session Feedback

In response, we will:

- Continue to provide strategies and tools
- Switch breakout groups to provide opportunities to collaborate with more colleagues
- Provide more time to discuss and apply strategies and tools



Session Objectives



Session Icons



Materials available
in the **Google Folder**



Discussion activity



Materials available
on the **Padlet**

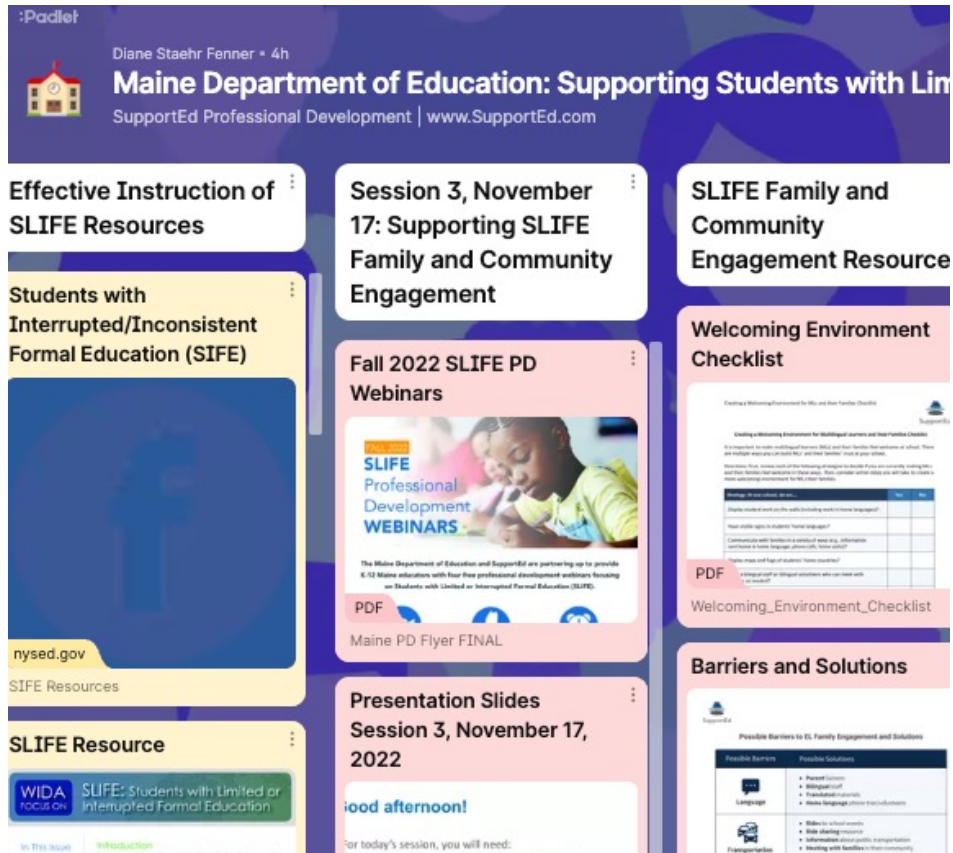


Meet in **breakout rooms**



Video activity

Session Padlet



bit.ly/MaineSLIFE-Padlet

Insert Web Page

This app allows you to insert secure web pages starting with https:// into the slide deck. Non-secure web pages are not supported for security reasons.

Please enter the URL below.

https:// bit.ly/MaineSLIFE-Padlet

Note: Many popular websites allow secure access. Please click on the preview button to ensure the web page is accessible.

Web Viewer [Terms](#) | [Privacy & Cookies](#)

Preview

Agenda (Document 2)

Time*	Topic
3:00 - 3:10	Introduction and Series Overview
3:10 - 3:35	Importance of SLIFE Families and Community Engagement
3:35 - 4:35	Collaborating With Families and Community Partners
4:35 - 4:55	Planning for Families and Community Partnerships
4:55 - 5:00	Next Steps

*Times are approximate with breaks embedded in the session.





Importance of SLIFE Families and Community Engagement

Students With Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE) Defined

- A language other than English is spoken at home
- Enter U.S. after grade 2
- Have at least 2 years less schooling
- Are at least 2 years below grade level
- Have gaps in their education



DeCapua, Marshall, & Tang, 2020; Potochnick, 2018.

Meeting the Needs of SLIFE



Adapted from NYCDOE, SIFE: Meeting the Challenge, n.d.

Family Engagement

It is an **ongoing** process of meaningful interaction between schools and families that involves **two-way** communication and a purposeful **focus** on supporting student learning.

Garcia, Frunzi, Dean, Flores, & Miller, 2016

School and Family Partnerships

- Improve student outcomes
- Remove language, cultural, and social barriers



Research Highlights

- Shift from involvement to engagement
- Forms of engagement
- Families' and educators' capacity to engage
- School district infrastructure
- Family empowerment



Office of the Education Ombudsman, 2012; Noel et al., 2015; Sibley and Dearing, 2014; Tobin et al., 2013

SLIFE Family Engagement Discussion (Document 3)

In breakout rooms, you will have **10 minutes** to:

- Briefly **introduce** yourselves and identify a recorder and reporter.
- **Discuss**
 - What are some family engagement opportunities that your school or district provides for SLIFE families?
 - What are some challenges that your school or district has had with family engagement for SLIFE families?
- **Be prepared** to share 1 takeaway.

Group 1		Recorder:
		Reporter:
What are some family engagement opportunities that your school or district provides for SLIFE families?	What are some challenges that your school or district has had with family engagement for SLIFE families?	
Statement to Share		

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SLIFE Family Engagement Discussion Debrief

Up to 3 group reporters will unmute to share out their one statement with the whole group.

- One family engagement opportunity we discussed was...
- One challenge we discussed was...





Collaborating With Families and Community Partners

Strategies for Fostering SLIFE Family Engagement



1. **Create** a welcoming environment for families



2. **Build** relationships with families



3. **Overcome** barriers to family engagement



4. **Empower** families



5. **Collaborate** in support of families






Snyder & Staehr Fenner, 2021

Family Engagement Strategies Jigsaw (Document 4)

In breakout rooms, you will have **10 minutes** to:

- Briefly **introduce** yourselves and identify a recorder and reporter.
- **Find** your group slides on Document 4.
- **Review** your strategy.
 - What is most beneficial about this strategy?
 - What are some challenges in your context?
- **Be prepared** to share a summary of your strategy.

Strategies for Fostering SLIFE Family Engagement

-  1. **Create** a welcoming environment for families ([slides 4-7](#))
-  2. **Build** relationships with families ([slides 8-11](#))
-  3. **Overcome** barriers to family engagement ([slides 12-13](#))
-  4. **Empower** families ([slides 14-17](#))
-  5. **Collaborate** in support of families ([slides 18-22](#))

Snyder & Staehr Fenner, 2021

3

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1. Create a Welcoming Environment for Families


Share your summary of the strategy.

- What is most beneficial about this strategy?
- What are some challenges in your context?



Welcoming Environment Checklist

Creating a Welcoming Environment for MLs and their Families Checklist

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Creating a Welcoming Environment for Multilingual Learners and their Families Checklist

It is important to make multilingual learners (MLs) and their families feel welcome at school. There are multiple ways you can build MLs' and their families' trust at your school.

Directions: First, review each of the following strategies to decide if you are currently making MLs and their families feel welcome in these ways. Then, consider action steps you will take to create a more welcoming environment for MLs their families.

Strategy: At our school, do we....	Yes	No
Display student work on the walls (including work in home languages)?		
Have visible signs in students' home languages?		
Communicate with families in a variety of ways (e.g., information sent home in home language, phone calls, home visits)?		
Display maps and flags of students' home countries?		
Have a bilingual staff or bilingual volunteers who can meet with families as needed?		

Staehr Fenner & Snyder, 2017; Adapted from Breiseth, Robertson, & LaFond, 2011



2. Build Relationships with Families

Share your summary of the strategy.

- What is most beneficial about this strategy?
- What are some challenges in your context?



Henderson & Whipple, 2013; Staehr Fenner, 2014; Staehr Fenner & Snyder, 2017



Family Engagement Events



In the chat, **share**

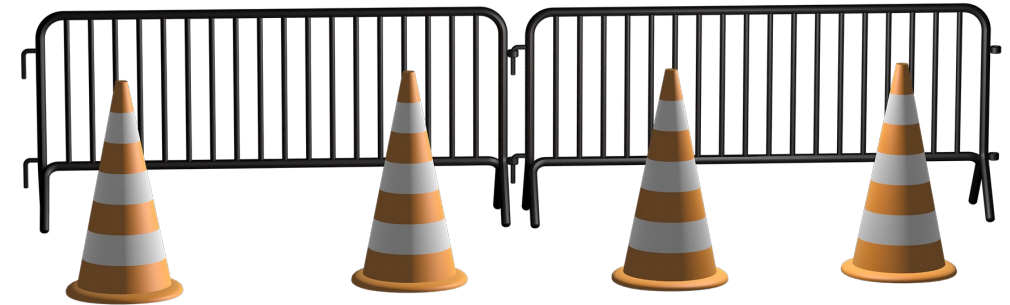
- How do family engagement events like this help build relationships with SLIFE families?
- What is one take-away you might consider taking back to your school or district?



3. Overcome Barriers to Family Engagement






Share your summary of the strategy.

- What is most beneficial about this strategy?
- What are some challenges in your context?



Possible Solutions to SLIFE Family Engagement Barriers

Possible Barriers to EL Family Engagement and Solutions

Possible Barriers	Possible Solutions
 Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parent liaisons• Bilingual staff• Translated materials• Home language phone tree/volunteers
 Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rides to school events• Ride sharing resource• Information about public transportation• Meeting with families in their community
 Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flexibility in scheduling conferences and events• Parent survey
 Childcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide childcare for conferences and school events
 Understanding of school system and role of parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EL meetings to provide information about school system and education• School tours• Community volunteers to share information in home language

Staehr Fenner, Snyder, & Monick, 2018



4. Empower Families

Share your summary of the strategy.

- What is most beneficial about this strategy?
- What are some challenges in your context?



Video: Empowering Families



In breakout rooms, you will have **5 minutes** to:

- Briefly **introduce** yourselves and identify a reporter.
- **Discuss**
 - What strategies did you see in the video that empowered families?
 - How might you empower families in your context?
- **Be prepared** to share 1 takeaway.

NASEM, 2017, p. 279

Empowering Families Discussion Debrief

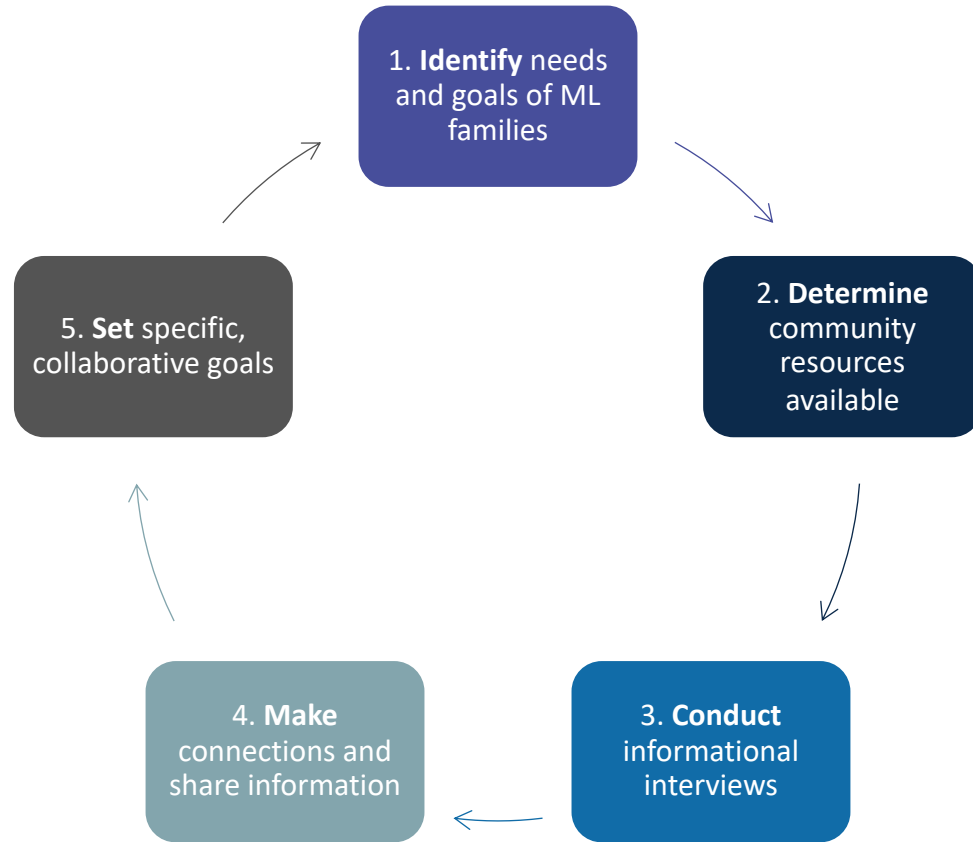
Up to 3 group reporters will unmute to share out their one statement with the whole group.

- One strategy that we saw to empower families was...
- One idea we plan to take back to your school or district is...





5. Collaborate in Support of Families



Share your summary of the strategy.

- What is most beneficial about this strategy?
- What are some challenges in your context?



What Types of Services Support SLIFE Families?

- After-school tutoring
- Volunteering
- Student internships
- Medical services
- Social services
- Clothing/food drives
- Trauma support
- Language classes for adults
- Continuing education programs
- Immigration information
- Citizenship classes
- Cultural liaisons
- Interpreters

Colorín Colorado, 2009



Who Are Potential Partners to Support SLIFE Families?

- Local hospitals
- Dental school students
- Community support groups
- Service organizations
- Faith communities
- Local landlords
- Community colleges and universities
- School families
- PTA
- Neighbors of the school
- Park district
- Academic enrichment programs
- Youth service organizations
- Local government

Keppler, Morales, Cortada, Austin, 2015





Setting Goals

Family Engagement Goal Setting (Document 5)

- **Make** a copy of the Recommendations for Engaging ML Families (Document 5)
- **Review** individually for **5 minutes**.
 - **Identify** 1 or 2 recommendations that you would like to try at your school or district.
 - **Determine** what steps you will take for each recommendation.
 - **Reflect** on your action steps, potential partners, and solutions to barriers.
- **Join** the breakout room aligned to your goal.
- **Share** your reflection in breakout rooms (5 minutes).




Recommendations for Engaging ML Families (Document 5)

Recommendations for Engaging ML Families¹

Directions:

1. Read the list of recommendations for engaging ML families.
2. Identify two recommendations that you would like to try at your school. What steps will you take for each? Answer the reflection questions at the end of the document.

Recommendations	Examples
 Create a Welcoming Environment for ML families	
Offer a space where ML families feel welcome and represented	<i>Make sure families know how to get into the building (e.g., if building is locked during the day); include bilingual books in the library and classroom; have bilingual staff and volunteers</i>
Integrate the cultural traditions of ML families throughout the school	<i>Learn about the cultural holidays of your students; avoid scheduling tests or significant events on these days</i>
Make the enrollment process manageable for ML parents	<i>Provide translated copies of all forms; use interpreters to share essential school information; provide a special SLIFE orientation</i>
Make the enrollment process accessible all year long	<i>Provide families enrolling in the middle of the year access to the same forms and procedures as those enrolling at the beginning of the year</i>

At my school or district, I would like to...	In order to do this, I will...
1.	
2.	

Family Engagement Goal Setting (Document 5)

- **Make** a copy of the Recommendations for Engaging ML Families (Document 5)
- **Review** individually for **5 minutes**.
 - **Identify** 1 or 2 recommendations that you would like to try at your school or district.
 - **Determine** what steps you will take for each recommendation.
 - **Reflect** on your action steps, potential partners, and solutions to barriers.
- **Join** the breakout room aligned to your goal.
- **Share** your reflection in breakout rooms (5 minutes).

05:00



Discussion Questions Debrief

Up to 3 group reporters will unmute to share out their one statement with the whole group.

- We discussed trying...
- Some potential partners were...
- Some solutions to barriers were...



Next Steps and Evaluation



Next Steps

- Implement 1-2 recommendations in your class, school, or district.
- Attend our upcoming session.



Session Number	Topic	Date
4	Supporting Graduation and Post-Secondary Success of SLIFE	December 15, 2022




Reflecting on Today's Session (Document 6)

- Please provide us anonymous feedback with a brief evaluation.
- Thank you!



FALL 2022
SLIFE *Virtual*
Professional
Development
SESSIONS



Supporting SLIFE Family and Community Engagement

Thank you for participating in today's session. Please take a moment to provide us feedback.

 shannon@supported.com (not shared) [Switch account](#) 

* Required

What is your greatest takeaway from today's session? *

Your answer

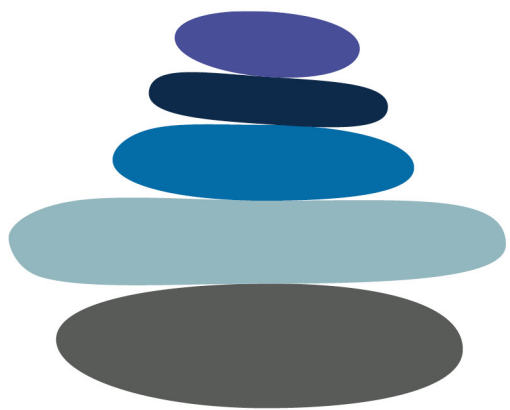
What are your next steps for MLs and SLIFE in your context? *

Your answer



Session Objectives





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Thank you!

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Shannon@SupportEd.com



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