

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LEARNING SERIES

## NEWSLETTER *for Champions*

The [\*Family Engagement Lab Learning Series\*](#) provides educators and education advocates with monthly tools and resources to engage families in student learning activities. Each month Family Engagement Lab will release a set of instructional strategies, research, family engagement activities, and online resources related to a specific family engagement topic.

### Upcoming topics include:

- Meeting the needs of diverse learners
- How to navigate today's new math
- Mid-year and end-of-year student and family check-ups
- The importance of early literacy
- Preparing for a new school year

[Learn More About the Learning Series](#)

## Meet Family Engagement Lab

[Family Engagement Lab](#) launched in 2016 as the brain child of founders Vidya Sundaram and Elisabeth O'Bryon to help schools ignite the potential of families to student learning. WHY? Because **research shows that parent involvement has more than twice the effect on student test scores than parents' education level or socio-economic status**. Knowing this, and that parents today are incredibly busy, Family Engagement Lab created a one-of-a-kind tool to directly connect parents to classroom learning called FASTalk.

### [Meet Our Team](#)

## Family Engagement Lab in the News

- Family Engagement Lab Founders Featured in [Fordham's Wonk-A-Thon](#)
- FASTalk Named as Literacy Solution in [LDOE's \\$100 million grant](#) application
- FASTalk Wins [Zaentz Early Education Innovation Challenge](#) at Harvard
- FASTalk Featured Learning Counsel's ["App of the Week"](#)
- Family Engagement Lab Co-Founder Featured on Two La Red Hispana Weekly Programs: [La Doctora Isabel Gómez-Bassols](#) and [Dr. Eduardo Lopez Navarro](#).

## FASTalk Updates

[FASTalk](#) sends families literacy activities via text message that are aligned to weekly ELA lessons and provide them with quick and easy ways to engage with their child at home. FASTalk is available in over 100 languages, so parents don't have to let translation barriers keep them from getting involved in their child's education. **FASTalk provides families with the opportunity to support their child's learning at home.**



FASTalk: A Magic Wand For Family Engagement

### 2018-2019 IMPACT

FASTalk helped nearly **4,000 students**, **75% of which are economically disadvantaged, engage in nightly conversations** with their families.

FASTalk messages were delivered to families in **25 different languages**.

Nearly all **teachers and parents** indicated that they **want to use FASTalk again**.

### 2019-2029 HIGHLIGHTS

FASTalk will serve 20 schools systems to **meaningfully engage over 13,000 diverse students and families** this school year.

FASTalk is expanding its partnership with the Louisiana Department of Education to **pilot FASTalk in PK-4 classrooms** so that **more students can achieve early childhood milestones**.

## Contact Us

Have questions? Email us at [felcommunications@fastalk.org](mailto:felcommunications@fastalk.org).

Don't forget to **follow us on social media** for the latest tools and resources to support family engagement.

