Problem of Practice

Early childhood teacher candidates feeling they are not adequately prepared to effectively communicate with and engage families.

Family Engagement Trainings for Teacher Candidates

1. Getting to know the community through community walks
2. Facilitating casual conversations with parents
3. Planning and facilitating a family event
4. Creating home-school connections

Why this is Important

Parent-teacher partnerships positively affect:
- academic achievement
- school attendance
- graduation rates from high school

Data Collection Methods

Quantitative
- Family Engagement Survey (pre- and post-)
- Personal Meaning Maps (pre- and post-)

Qualitative
- Teacher Candidates Reflections (four times throughout Fall, 2019)

Theoretical Frameworks

- Bandura's Self-efficacy Theory
- Epstein’s Overlapping Spheres of Influence

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