



It Takes a City

DC Does it Best!

Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

- Welcome to the workshop and conversation!



About the Presenter

- Joy Dingle
- 20 years in education including teaching in DC classrooms
- Background in education law, policy & research

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Ground Rules

No time for



- No judgments
- **Everyone** has a voice.
- Respect time
- Some questions will go into the “parking lot” until later.
- Creativity and humor are encouraged.
- Relax and enjoy!



Goals

- Every participant will leave with at least **three new ideas** he or she can use at home.



Background

- Anywhere, anytime learning (AAL)
- “...learners across all developmental periods, from infancy to adulthood, gain knowledge and skills in **multiple places and across all hours of the day.**” (Finding Time Together)
- Source: Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP)



Time Matters

- “Elementary- and high school–aged children spend approximately 20 percent of their waking hours each year in school. The remaining 80 percent represents hours of opportunities for families and communities to engage children in AAL activities in non-school settings.”
- Source: Finding Time Together, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

You are not alone

- According to a survey conducted by the National Center for Families Learning, 53 percent of parents wish that they knew how to make better use of their time with their children.
- Source: Finding Time Together, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Positive Feelings

- “Families rated their time spent with their children to be their most meaningful use of time.” Families averaged two hours per day spent together.
- Source: Finding Time Together, HFRP

Challenges

- economic situation and the affordability of programs of interest
- amount of free time to research programs, fill out applications, and transport children to and from programs
- access to and the availability of social networks, community resources, and offered activities



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Summer learning loss

- “Parents consistently cite summer as the most difficult time to ensure that their children have productive things to do (Duffett et al, 2004).”
- Source: National Summer Learning Association

Friendly suggestions

- Keep to a schedule.
- Honor family traditions.
- Provide healthy meals and snacks whenever possible.
- Share responsibilities with family and friends.



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

- “Children from even the youngest age can thrive when they participate in a **network of learning opportunities**—in and out of school—that meets their interests and needs.”
- Source: Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

What Parents Can Do to Support Their Children



3 Keys to Success

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Encouragement
- Source: Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Children need broad exposure

- “It is valuable for learners, *especially high school students* who become increasingly specialized in their talents and interests, to connect and apply ideas **across various community spaces**. This connection helps students broaden and deepen their learning.”

Source: Family
Engagement, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Great news!



- “When family involvement levels are high from kindergarten through fifth grade, the achievement gap in average literacy performance between children of more and less educated [parents] is nonexistent.”
- Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Middle and High School Children



- “As children get older, they sleep less, become more independent, and spend more time with non-familial adults and peers in settings other than the home.”
- Source: Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

- “As children get older, parent–child relationships remain important. Families play a critical role in communicating the value of education, setting high expectations for children’s educational attainment, and encouraging children’s pursuits.”
- Source: Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Adults' Roles Change as Children Grow

- “Young adults succeed when adults are there to listen, monitor, and encourage new ideas.”

- Source: HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Learners of All Ages

- “Children and youth thrive when they have choices, along with opportunities to participate in different learning settings and test new ideas within them.”
- Source: Family Engagement in Anywhere, Anytime Learning, HFRP



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

Working Together

- DC Family Engagement Partnership initiative (FEP) 2012-2014
- Transforming way teachers and families work together
- Provided support for both teachers and families in collaborating, communicating



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

College & Career Readiness



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Supportive and Challenging Learning Environments



Making the Most of Your Family's Out of School Time

**What are some things your
family typically does at home?**

Take a moment to brainstorm...



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**Where does your family learn
around the city?**

Take a moment to brainstorm



