



Parent Institute for Quality Education
Family Engagement Program- Middle School
MIDDLE SCHOOL: ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The Family Engagement Program seeks to educate, empower, and inspire families to take an active role in their student’s education while building community and a peer-to-peer network. Families are engaged in programming that encourages fostering a positive educational environment at home and at school to increase academic success. Families better understand how to navigate the school system, access relevant information for student success, and college admission requirements.

- 8-week program | Orientation, 5 weeks of content, Community Dialogue, Graduation
- Once a week, 90 minute-sessions virtual or in-person
- Includes Social Emotional Learning and its 5 Competencies (Casel SEL Framework)
- Integrates digital literacy learning through Digital Capsules and the use of the ParentSquare PIQE App

WEEK NO.	TOPIC/ DESCRIPTION	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
<i>Week 1:</i> Orientation Session	PIQE Orientation- Introduction to Family Engagement & PIQE	<p>During this orientation, the participants will understand the importance of family engagement, know the most pressing issues affecting their student at school, and how to become involved in their student’s education.</p> <p>Upon completion of the Orientation, families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand PIQE’s mission and history. • Have an increased sense of urgency about the most pressing issues their student will face during their education. • Become motivated to enroll in PIQE’s Family Engagement Program to learn more about the education system, have the tools to support their student both academically and emotionally, and develop or improve digital literacy skills.
<i>Week 2:</i> 1 st Class	Supporting the Academic Achievement of Students	<p>Upon completion of the class, the families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the changes that students experience during middle school. • Know the definition and the importance of Social Emotional Learning (SEL). • Know the definition of Self Awareness and the importance of developing this Social Emotional Competency during adolescence to help with academic success now and to prepare for college. • Extend digital literacy skills by learning how to create their own email account and how to adjust language in the ParentSquare PIQE App.

<p><u>Week 3:</u> 2nd Class</p>	<p>Self-Management, Academic Standards, and Standardized Testing</p>	<p>Upon completion of the class, the families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the definition of Self-Management, its influence on academic success, and how to identify one’s emotions, thoughts, and behaviors in different situations. • Understand the academic expectations required of students to meet the Common Core State Standards. • Be familiar with California’s Standardized Testing System, CAASPP. • Extend digital literacy skills by learning how to draft and send an email to their student’s teacher/academic counselor and how to communicate in the ParentSquare PIQE App.
<p><u>Week 4:</u> 3rd Class</p>	<p>Building Relationship Skills and Accessibility Resources</p>	<p>Upon completion of the class, the families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be familiar with the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) test including the reclassification process. • Gain an understanding of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, 504s, and receive general information about special education in California. • Be familiar with the role of the academic counselor and effective questions to ask a student’s academic counselor during a conference. • Know the definition of relationship skills and recognize the strategies to help students develop these skills. • Extend digital literacy skills by learning how to translate an email to a language of their choice and how to interact with posts on the ParentSquare PIQE App.
<p><u>Week 5:</u> 4th Class</p>	<p>Fostering Social Awareness & Educational Advocacy</p>	<p>Upon completion of the class, the families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the definition of Social Awareness and its relation to social environments in fostering academic success at school. • Understand California’s school funding formula (LCFF), including its accountability system- Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). • Understand various parent committees at the school site to enhance advocacy and promote family engagement in driving positive change. • Understand Williams vs California, the Teacher Assignment Monitoring Outcome (TAMO), and the California School Dashboard as advocacy tools to ensure student achievement. • Extend digital literacy skills by becoming aware of the pros and cons of the apps that their student may be using and how to post in the ParentSquare PIQE App.

<p><u>Week 6:</u> 5th Class</p>	<p>Preparing for College and Other Post Secondary Options <i>Retrospective Survey</i></p>	<p>Upon completion of the class, the families and caregivers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the definition of Responsible Decision Making. • Understand the benefits of going to college. • Identify the main university admission requirements and explore how early preparation in middle school, as well as dual enrollment in high school, can help students meet these criteria. • Become aware of other post-secondary options. • Learn about different ways to start financing for college in middle school. • Extend digital literacy skills by learning how to avoid being hacked, becoming aware of what phishing looks like, and questions to ask facilitators in the ParentSquare PIQE App.
<p><u>Week 7:</u> Community Dialogue</p>	<p>Community Dialogue</p>	<p>Principals, Vice Principals, and/or School Counselors respond to the families’ questions, concerns, and suggestions. They also provide families with access/referrals to school team members. This forum encourages families to participate in school activities, meet with the student’s teacher and/or counselor regularly, and stay involved in their student’s education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIQE will facilitate dialogue with the principal/school representatives and families. • The families will receive information on resources available, community events, LCFF meetings, parent committee meetings, counseling, and any additional support for students.
<p><u>Week 8:</u> Graduation</p>	<p>Graduation Ceremony</p>	<p>This last session cements the families’ responsibility to continue supporting their student and work with their school community. The ceremony is attended by family members and becomes a positive memory for families and their student(s).</p> <p>The course culminates with a graduation ceremony in which families are awarded certificates of completion by the school Principal. Participants are also invited to share their experiences in PIQE’s Family Engagement Program. Perfect attendance is recognized.</p>