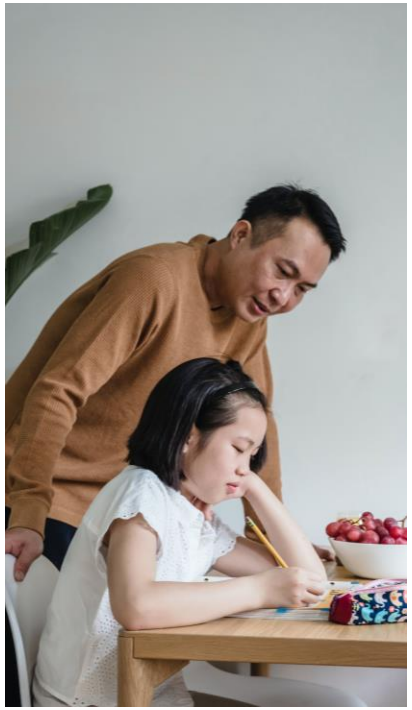
Engaging Families in Student Literacy Development: Translating Research into Practice in Ohio Schools



Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center

June 2026
ReadOhio Literacy Academy

The Ohio State University
Center on Education and Training for Employment

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Greeting!

Say hello to the person next to you!

- Share your name, role, location
- What is something you have learned at this Academy or hope to learn?

Who We Are

We support the development and academic achievement of children by providing tools and trainings to Ohio families and schools for building effective family-school partnerships.

Dr. Barbara Boone

Dr. Yesenia Alvarez Padilla

Dr. Hadley Bachman

Thomas Capretta

Sarah Deshon

Whitney Gherman

Kristin Meek-Hennon

Greg Nagy

Wesley Owens

Dr. Meredith Wellman

Jiarui Xie

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Learning Objectives

- Analyze the family engagement strategies used by Ohio districts to identify elements applicable to your own unique school context.
- Explore free resources from the Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center's website on a variety of literacy topics for family-school partnerships.
- Identify professional learning opportunities to support family-school partnerships.

AGENDA

Opening – About our Seminars

District Presentations

- Toledo School District
- Winton Woods School District

Collaboration

- Turn & Talk

Closing

- Debrief
- Professional Development Opportunities

Comprehensive Literacy State Development Sites

Partnerships for Literacy

Engaging Every Family for Literacy

SURVEY

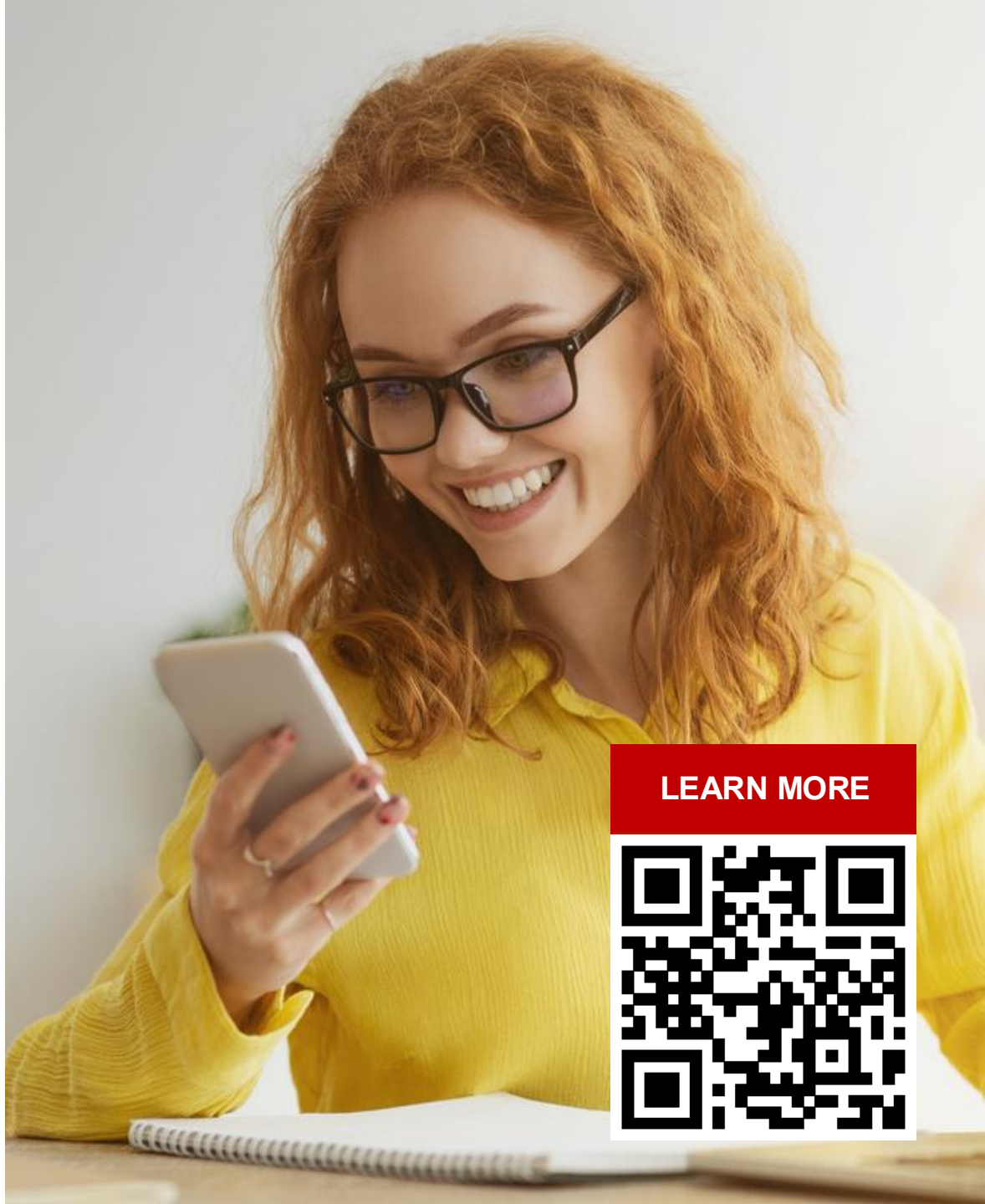
Family Engagement Efficacy Beliefs of Educators (FEEB-E)

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FEEB-E SURVEY!

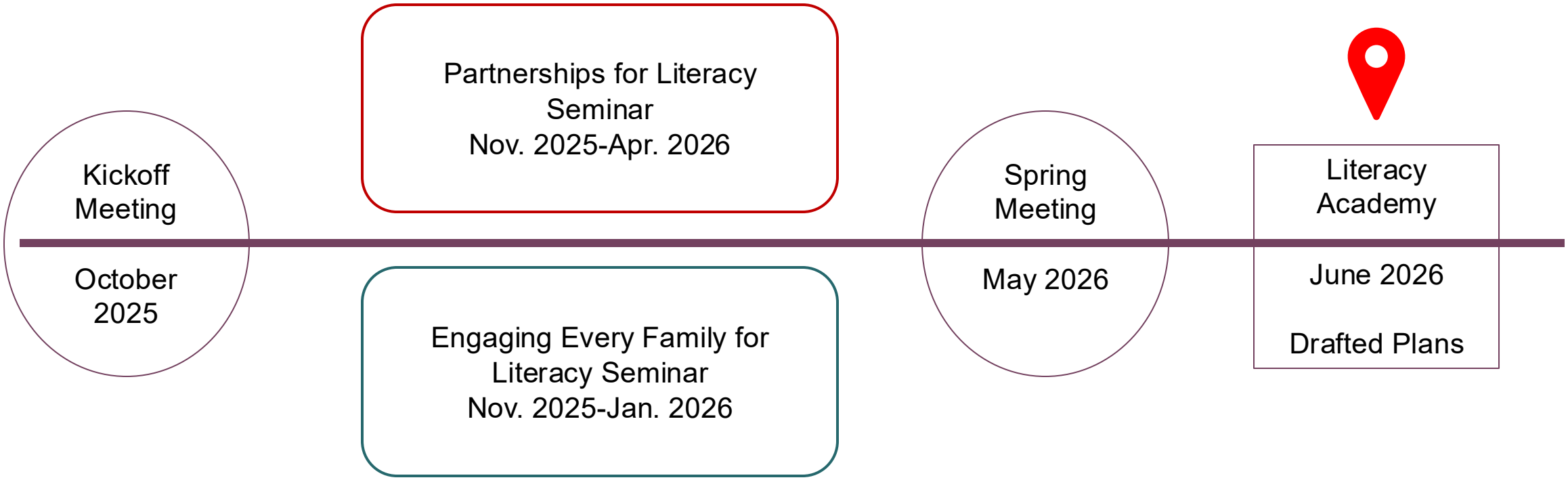
- ✓ Freely available for individual educators to use
- ✓ A school/district version of the FEEB-E can be created, and a report of results prepared
- ✓ Freely available for researchers to use, with permission

https://go.osu.edu/feeberequest

Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center at The Ohio State University



Year 1 Timeline



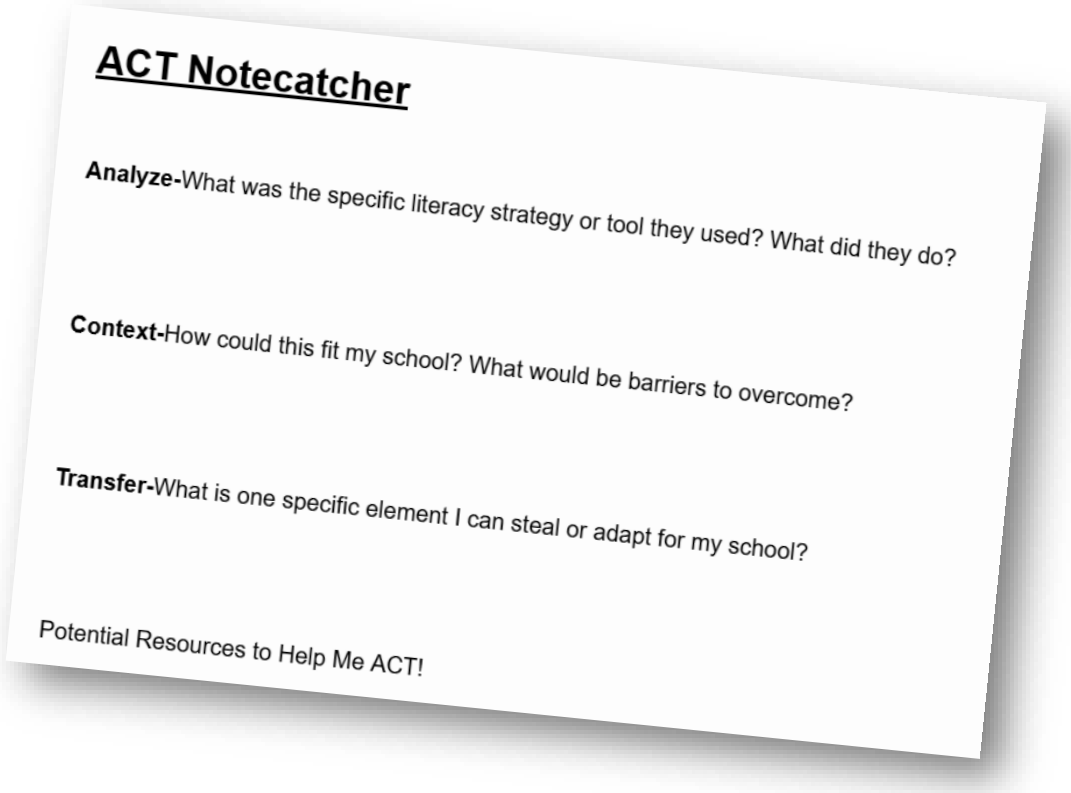
Individual Reflection

Analyze-What was the specific literacy strategy or tool they used?

What did they do?

Context-How could this fit my school? What would be barriers to overcome?

Transfer-What is one specific element I can steal or adapt for my school?



Partnerships for Literacy

- For Elementary schools
- Locally developed plan aligned with school's reading plan
- Creation of a representative family-teacher team
- Extensive inventory of early literacy practices
- Action steps based on inventory results

The Roadmap

Step 1: Prepare your School

Step 2: Build a Team

Step 3: Inventory Practices

Step 4: Create/Redesign Action Steps

Step 5: Implement and Track

Step 6: Review and Re-inventory Practices, Celebrate Successes

Step 7: Sustain Partnerships for Literacy

TPS PROUD
TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Welcome!

Nicole Shetterly
Amy Raczkowski

Engaging Every Family for Literacy

- Draws from MTSS
- Flexible, responsive, proactive and strategic strategies to meet families' strengths, concerns and interests
- Families move fluidly among tiers
- Widens families' roles

Multi-Tiered Family Engagement

- Tier I: Universal for All Families
- Tier II: Tailored for Groups of Families
- Tier III: Intensive for Individual Families
- 5 Family Roles: providers of support, receivers of support, initiators, co-designers, and evaluators

Welcome!

Steve Denny
Doug Sanker
Adrienne Martin
Dr. Tamra Ragland

Turn & Talk

Share 1 takeaway from your notes with another person at your table.

A Resource for *You*

- Resources to support birth through high school graduation!
- Resources for…
  - Science of Reading
  - Dyslexia
  - Third Grade Reading Guarantee
- Templates to use

Literacy Toolkit:

ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu

Visit the Toolkit!

Learning Milestones

Learning at Home

Communicating with School & Questions to Ask

Getting Help

https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/family-literacy-toolkit/

Debrief

One immediate action you will take for the next school year based on what you heard today?

One question you still have (please include your name/email if you'd like us to follow-up)

Free e-newsletter | Delivered to your inbox every other month

https://go.osu.edu/newsguide

Sign up for News and Guidance:

The Ohio State University
Center on Education and Training for Employment

Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center

Join us online on September 18, 2026

Register today at go.osu.edu/FamilyEngagementSummit

SEMINAR

Unlocking Early Literacy with Family-Teacher Collaboration

Application opens:
July 17-September 17, 2026

Seminar:
October 1-October 22, 2026

LEARN MORE

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- **Developed by:**
- This resource was developed by the Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center, housed within the Center on Education and Training for Employment at The Ohio State University. The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center provides research-based tools and professional development for building effective family-school partnerships to support the development and academic achievement of children.
- **Suggested Citation:**

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