

Kentucky Teachers,

Welcome back. We want to send a sincere thank you for the work you do day-in and day-out, for students and their families. The teaching profession has faced several hardships in recent years, and we applaud your tenacity and resolve to focus on innovative solutions. Your dedication is unparalleled when it comes to your classroom and the bright minds of the young people you are teaching. As you begin the 2022-2023 school year, we want to highlight resources to support your work.

- **Becoming Family Friendly Certified**- In March, the [Family Friendly School Certification](#) for Kentucky schools and early care centers was launched. Research shows that when families are meaningfully engaged in their children's learning and development, it promotes overall success in academic achievement, social-emotional well-being, and family-teacher relationships. We encourage you to support your school in obtaining Family Friendly Certification this year. To be considered for the 2022 recognition you must submit before Nov. 1st. We recommend identifying someone in the school to take a look at our [School Year Break Down](#) and our [Pulse Check](#) on Family Engagement. These are great places to start without overwhelming your team.
- **Building Relationships and Family Leadership**- In the world of family engagement we recognize that "relationships first" are key to building strong partnerships. Encouraging families as partners in decision-making is critical to authentic engagement and trust building in a school. Families have several opportunities to serve in the local district from the BOE to SBDM. Check out additional opportunities for parents to serve in leadership roles and consider nominating parent leaders in your school for the [CIPL Fellowship](#).
- **Connecting Community Engagement**-[The Groundswell Initiative](#) serves as a resource gathering hub for community profiles, actions that improve student outcomes, and mobilization of communities to invest their time and talent to improve education at the local level.
- **Join Us in Celebrating**: Nov. 14th-18th Kentucky Family Engagement in Education Week! Follow @kycipl on Facebook and @kyfamengage on Twitter.

Finally, we would encourage you to visit www.prichardcommittee.org for toolboxes with information including district community profiles, bright spot schools, current research, and blog posts on education topics throughout Kentucky. Additionally, we want to uplift and applaud the innovative work being done in Kentucky and solicit you [to share](#) the notable examples of this work unfolding in the upcoming school year. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to families, their students, your communities, and our future!



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