

EDAD 8135 - Building Organizational Culture and Community Partnerships

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section A01, CRN 42541,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

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Public Instructor Information

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Professional Qualifications: Doctorate, Education Leadership, Youngstown State University

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Master's, Education Administration and Principal Licensure (Kindergarten to Ninth Grade) Ursuline College

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Course Description

8135. Building Organizational Culture and Community Partnerships. Building Organizational Culture and Community Partnerships is designed in accordance with the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) District Level Program Standards, Standard 5. Candidates in this educational leadership preparation course will learn to apply new knowledge and skills to engage families, communities, and related business partnerships to meet student and community cultural and environmental needs. An examination of the school and community culture will contribute to the essential objectives of the course. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	See below	Various	

Module 1 Reading and Videos:

Review the follow site(s) and look over the information for the topic we are focusing on this week.

Family-School Engagement Guide

Ohio Family and Children First. (2021) Family-School Engagement Guide. You can review more information on their website. <https://www.panoramaed.com/blog/family-engagement-comprehensive-guide>

- State Support Team's Family and Community Engagement website
- DOE's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education online article on Strategies for Equitable Family Engagement
- California State PTA Website's Introduction to the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships
- Usable Knowledge website video and article on A Family Engagement Framework for All

Ohio Family Engagement Center

- What is Ohio's Family and Community Engagement Network?
- What is family engagement?
- Video: How schools can engage families within their PBIS framework

Site Accessed at <https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/>

Website Reference

- <https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/fcenetwork/>
- <https://fcf.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Home/Initiatives/Family%20Engagement/FE%20White%20Paper.pdf>
- <https://www.escneo.org/ParentEngagement1.aspx>
- <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6099e750af53d713652f837c/t/61805e78ba46671af2b1e638/1635802745653/Family-School+Engagement+Guide+ELLC+2021.pdf>
- <https://oese.ed.gov/resources/oese-technical-assistance-centers/state-support-network/resources/strategies-equitable-family-engagement/>
- <https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/>
- <https://capta.org/national-standards-for-family-school-partnerships/>
- <https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/ohios-blueprint/>
- <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/20/06/family-engagement-framework-all>

Module 2 Reading and Videos:

Read the following to help you respond to discussion question(s) and to complete your assignment(s).

Reflections from Partnership for Resilience Leadership and Staff

Retrieved from: https://edredesign.org/files/edredesign/files/reflections_from_partnership_for_resilience_leadership_and_staff.mp4

Ohio School Boards Community Relations and Engagement

Retrieved from: <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/community-relations-community-engagement>

Community Engagement

Retrieved from: <https://dae.utk.edu/communityengagement/about/what-is-community-engagement/>

Benefits of Community Engagement for Universities and Colleges

Retrieved from: <https://www.socialpinpoint.com/benefits-of-community-engagement-for-universities-and-colleges/>

Community Engagement in Healthcare

Retrieved from: <https://communitycatalyst.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/inspire-final-report-070124.pdf>

- Community Engagement Strategies (MO 1,2,3)
- Communication 101 (MO 1,2,3)
- Cultivating University and Community Partnerships (MO 1,2,3)
- Family and Community Engagement (MO 1,2,3)
- Effects of Community Based and Civic Engagement (MO 1,2,3)
- What Is Community Engagement? (MO 1,2,3)

Module 3 Reading and Videos:

Read the following and respond to discussion question(s) and complete your assignment(s).

Research-Based Community Collaboration Resources

- <https://www.pkchildren.org>
- <https://www.communityschools.org/>
- The Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland
- Say Yes Cleveland
- The Collective Impact Model
- Strive Together

Cultivating Relationships with School Districts' Resources

- <https://fsba.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Creating-an-Advocacy-Template-for-your-District.pdf>
- [http://iavat.weebly.com/uploads/5/2/5/3/52531863/example_advocacy_plan_6-17-2013_\(1\).pdf](http://iavat.weebly.com/uploads/5/2/5/3/52531863/example_advocacy_plan_6-17-2013_(1).pdf)
- <https://www.nea.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/Advocacy-Handbook-Final-S18%282%29.pdf>
- <https://www.nea.org/student-success/great-public-schools/community-schools/what-are-they>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhHHbAGAKkg>
- Cultivating Relationships Secondary Classrooms

Cultivating Relationships Design Strategies

- <https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/community-relations-advocacy>
- <https://scoho.org/advocacy/>
- <https://www.ohahperd.org/advocacy>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0D6daZrg-Zo>
- <https://www.edutopia.org/topic/community-partnerships/>
- <https://www.air.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/Practice-Guide-1-Collaborative-Leadership-2024.pdf>
- Develop Collaborations with Institutions of Higher Education

Cultivating Relationships with Community Resources

- <https://oaae.net/advocacy/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHK9ME9AwGw>

Module 4 Reading and Videos:

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Pages

<https://iste.org/>

- ISTE Standards: Education Leaders
- 3 Ways To Weave Digital Citizenship Into Your Curriculum
- What Are ISTE Standards? (And Why Do They Matter?)
- https://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/ed-tech-trends-exploration.shtml/
- The Ohio State University Digital Wellbeing and Citizenship
- Higher Education and Digital Citizenship
- Ohio Aspire

ISTE Standard 3: Knowledge Constructor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5Xw81aSNDw>

Module 5 Reading and Videos:

Readings

Read the following resources (and previous resources cited), to help you complete your assignment(s).

US Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology. (2017). Re-Imagining the Role of Technology in Education. <https://tech.ed.gov/files/2017/01/NETP17.pdf> Role of Technology in Education

REALIZING THE PROMISE: How can education technology improve learning for all?

Ganimian, A, Vegas, E, and Hess, F. (2023). <https://www.brookings.edu/essay/realizing-the-promise-how-can-education-technology-improve-learning-for-all/>

Svitak, A. (2012). 5 Ways to Empower Students. Giving them a voice in their own education. Retrieve from: <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/empower-students-adora-svitak>

Forbes (2018). 10 Ways Educators Can Make Classrooms More Innovative. Retrieve from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/robynshulman/2018/11/19/10-ways-educators-can-make-classrooms-more-innovative/?sh=3fda6c607f87>

Mascarenaz, K. (2018). 5 Ingredients To Create A Culture of Innovation in Your District . Retrieve from: <https://www.edelements.com/blog/5-ingredients-to-create-a-culture-of-innovation-in-your-district>

Mascarenaz, K. (2018). Ten Tips for Creating a Culture of Innovation in Schools and Districts. Retrieve from: <https://www.edelements.com/blog/ten-tips-for-creating-a-culture-of-innovation>

Technology in Education

AI and Education

Technology Reinventing Education

ISTE Technology

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) empowers educators and students by adopting the ISTE Standards, focusing on integrating technology like AI, digital literacy, and computational thinking into curricula. These standards, designed for 2025, prioritize using technology to enhance, rather than just learn about, tools, fostering critical thinking, creativity, and student-centered learning.

Key Initiatives for Enhancing Learning with Technology:

- **2025 Learning Standards for Technology:** These standards focus on seven core strands, including Empowered Learner, Digital Citizen, and Computational Thinker. They emphasize student-centered learning over just learning tools.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Integration:** Schools are encouraged to adopt AI tools, allowing students to personalize learning, such as interacting with chatbots for subjects like science. The state is also developing model policies for AI use in K-12.
- **Educator Empowerment:** Teachers are encouraged to act as facilitators, using data to guide instruction and providing alternative methods for students to demonstrate competency. Technology is used to streamline tasks like creating lesson plans and quizzes.
- **Digital Citizenship and Literacy:** The framework ensures students can navigate digital environments safely and critically.
- **Virtual and Blended Learning Support:** Resources for teachers include tools for online, blended learning, and supporting English Language Learners (ELLs).

These efforts aim to create a more engaging, personalized, and efficient learning environment.

Ohio's Learning Standards for Technology

Ohio Department of Education (.gov)

Module 6 Reading and Videos:

Review the following to help you complete your assignment(s).

How Do You Include Your Community in Creating Your Vision for Personalized Learning?

Peterson, S. (2018). Retrieve from: <https://www.edsurge.com/news/2018-08-22-how-do-you-include-your-community-in-creating-your-vision-for-personalized-learning>

5 Steps to Better School/Community Collaboration. Simple ideas for creating a stronger network

O'Keefe, B. (2011). Retrieve from: <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/school-community-collaboration-brendan-okeefe>

Build a Shared Vision

- **Visionary Leadership: 3 Ways to Kickstart Your School Year Planning (Digital Promise)**
- *Key Focus:* Aligning resources and priorities to support a common vision through "Portraits of a Learner." It discusses how to set a foundation for cross-functional teams.

A communication plan must be more than a list of tools; it must be a strategic document that maps audiences to desired behaviors.

- **Communications in Schools: A Planning Guide (SchoolStatus)**
- *Key Focus:* A step-by-step guide to setting goals, identifying barriers to dialogue, and auditing existing tools to ensure time-sensitive information reaches all families.
- **Mastering School Communication in the Digital Age (Apptegy)**

- *Key Focus:* Best practices for "The 7 Cs" of communication (Clear, Concise, Concrete, etc.) and strategies for using SMS, apps, and web presence effectively for multilingual families.
- **Developing a Communication Plan Checklist (IES / US Dept of Ed)**
- *Key Focus:* A practitioner's toolkit for matching the right platform to the right message—distinguishing when to use storytelling videos vs. infographic process results
- **Putting Collective Impact into Context (Wallace Foundation)**
- *Key Focus:* An authoritative look at cross-sector collaboration in education. It explores how to bridge the gap between school-centric strategies and a wider range of community services.
- **Innovative Approaches to Family and Community Engagement (Harvard GSE)**
- *Key Focus:* Discusses "Sharing Power" and affirms that engagement is essential for reducing chronic absenteeism and increasing student learning outcomes.

Best-Practice-Creating-a-Collaborative-Vision

NYC DOE. (nd) Retrieve from: <https://parentcoordinatornyc.connectwithkids.com/files/2015/02/Best-Practice-Creating-a-Collaborative-Vision.pdf>

School-Community Learning Partnerships: Essential to Expanded Learning Success

Little, P. (2020). Retrieve from: <https://www.expandinglearning.org/expandingminds/article/school-community-learning-partnerships-essential-expanded-learning-success>

Community Collaboration to Improve Schools_ Introducing a New Model from Ohio.pdf

Anderson-Butcher, D., Lawson, H. A., Bean, J., Flaspohler, P., Boone, B., & Kwiatkowski, A. (2008). Community collaboration to improve schools: Introducing a new model from Ohio. *Children & Schools*, 30(3), 161-172.

Case Study: Building a Vision for All Students in Marysville, Ohio

Kuhlmann, J. (2017). Retrieve from: <https://knowledgeworks.org/resources/case-study-marysville-district/>

Collaborating to transform and improve education systems: A playbook for family-school engagement

Rebecca Winthrop, Adam Barton, Mahsa Ershadi, and Lauren Ziegler . (2023). <https://www.brookings.edu/essay/collaborating-to-transform-and-improve-education-systems-a-playbook-for-family-school-engagement/>

Please see the additional resources and links in the Reading and Media segment of this module.

Module 7 Reading and Videos:

Resources

Review the follow site(s) and look over the information for the topic we are focusing on this week.

- Harvard Ed. Redesign Lab, <https://edredesign.org/>
- Communities in Schools, <https://www.communitiesinschools.org/>

Optional Additional Resources

Section 7. Working Together for Healthier Communities: A Framework for Collaboration Among Community Partnerships, Support Organizations, and Funders

Stephen B.Fawcett; Vincent T. Francisco; Adrienne Paine-Andrews; Jerry Schultz

DESIGNING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO EXPAND STUDENT LEARNING: A TOOLKIT

CEI (2023) coloradoedinitiative.org

Designing Community

Community capacity building: a collaborative approach to designing a training and education model

CEI_GSN_CommunityPartnershipToolkit.pdf

Closing the Gap Between School & Community Partnerships

Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc. (2021)

Closing-the-Gap-Report

Community School White Paper - IEL and NASP

Nine Elements of Effective School Community Partnerships to Address Student Mental Health, Physical Health, and Overall Wellness.pdf

7 Steps to Building School to Industry Partnerships (Reading and Video on Page)

Kathy Baron (2010) . Read more on Community Partnerships on Edutopia's page

What Are Community Schools? (Reading and Video on Page)

National Education Association (2023)

Website References:

- <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/overview/model-for-community-change-and-improvement/framework-for-collaboration/main>
- Goytia CN, Todaro-Rivera L, Brenner B, Shepard P, Piedras V, Horowitz C. Community capacity building: a collaborative approach to designing a training and education model. Prog Community Health Partnersh. 2013 Fall;7(3):291-9. doi: 10.1353/cpr.2013.0031. PMID: 24056511; PMCID: PMC4312660.<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24056511/>
- <https://mccoyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/FINAL-Closing-the-Gap-Report-1.pdf>https://www.nasponline.org/documents/Research%20and%20Policy/Advocacy%20Resources/Community%20Schools%20White%20Paper_Jan_2016.pdf
- Edutopia Community Partnerships
- <https://www.nea.org/student-success/great-public-schools/community-schools/what-are-they>

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 1 District Engagement of All Families Project	Module 1 Sunday, August 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Discussion: Initial post Due August 26, 2026 Final posts Due August 30, 2026
8/31	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 2 District Family, Community Member, and Partner Communications Plan Project	Module 2 Sunday, September 6, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Discussion: Initial post Due September 2, 2026 Final posts Due September 6, 2026
9/7	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 3 Researched-Based Community Collaboration Investigation Project	Module 3 Sunday, September 13, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Discussion: Initial post Due September 9, 2026 Final posts Due September 13, 2026
9/14	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 4 Digital Citizenship Audit (or Report) Project	Module 4 Sunday, September 20, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Discussion: Initial post Due September 16, 2026 Final posts Due September 20, 2026

9/21	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 5 Creating, Advocating for, and Communicating District Cultures that Empower Teachers, Instructors, and Students' Use of Technology to Enhance Students' Learning Project	Module 5 Sunday, September 27, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Discussion: Initial post Due September 23, 2026 Final posts Due September 27, 2026
9/28	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information.	Module 6 Critical Task Assignment School District and Community Evaluation (Including Technology Leadership) Project and Vision, Goals, and Communications Plan Project	Module 6 Critical Task Assignment Due Sunday, October 4, 2026, 11:59 p.m.
10/5	Please see all video links and readings, as outlined in the modules and in additional information	Module 7 Discussion and NELP STANDARD 5 COMPREHENSIVE EXAM	Module 7 Discussion Friday, October 9, 2026, 11:59 p.m. and NELP Exam Due October 9, 2026, 11:59 p.m.

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.