

Two Options for Building School Communities

For districts (or organizations) helping their schools build stronger school communities, the Academic Development Institute offers two options: the **FACE Tool Shop** and the **FACE Tool Box**. Both options offer research-based tools that work to bring families and schools together in a community focused on student learning.

The FACE Tool Shop (Option 1)

ADI trains, certifies, and supports district (or organization) personnel as School Community Builders. The sponsoring district (or organization) selects two or more staff members to complete a 4-day training session. The School Community Builders and their sponsoring district (or organization) are then licensed and qualified to provide ADI's School Community Index, Family Engagement Tool, and Solid Foundation® services. Additional training through distance learning sessions and an apprenticeship enable the School Community Builder to earn recognition as a Master School Community Builder.

The Tool Shop's three services (see description on reverse side) may be administered separately or used in combination, as fits the needs of a school.

The FACE Tool Box (Option 2)

ADI trains and supports district (or organization) personnel to provide ADI's School Community Index and/or Family Engagement Tool to their schools. District (or organization) personnel attend two distance learning sessions in order to become licensed to administer the Tool Box tools in their schools.

Contact us today to learn more about these Tools.

"The FET is great for schools that want to more intentionally focus on engaging parents to positively impact student success."

Karen Shanoski, Project Manager
Pennsylvania Parent Information Resource Center

"The most essential outcome of Solid Foundation is that it creates or regenerates school ownership as a partnership between the role players in the school and the home."

John Cunningham, Title I Director
Alton School District, Alton, IL

"This (FET) is a valuable tool that should be added to the toolbox of every school!"

Steve Fiechtner, Education Program Specialist
South Dakota Department of Education

"Solid Foundation helped us identify how parents can make an academic and social difference in their child's life at home and school. I would recommend this tool to anyone who is interested in improving their school community. Expect real results."

Tony Brooks, Principal

"What the survey (Index) does is gives you an idea of what you're doing well and what you're not doing well. One of the things we've identified is we need to be more consistent with homework, that's one of our improvement targets...The initial survey showed lots of strengths, but it flushed out a lot of issues."

Brian Hastings, Conway Elementary School
Conway, NH



Visit our **FACE Tool Shop** at
www.families-schools.org

Or contact:
Reatha Owen
rowen@adi.org
217-732-6462 Ext. 17

FACE Tool Shop
(Tools for Family and Community Engagement in Schools)





School Community Index

Every building project benefits from a survey to first “get the lay of the land.” This web-based survey completed by teachers, parents, and students (in high schools) comes together in a rich report complete with charts, graphs, narratives, and guidance for analysis. The School Community Index...

Gathers data unique to the school community

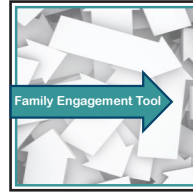
From surveys completed by the principal, teachers, parents, and students (in high schools), the School Community Index generates a report covering Perceptions, the Curriculum of the Home, and Parent Involvement. More than 100 aspects of school community are displayed for a comprehensive picture of the unique characteristics of the school and the people intimately connected with it.

Brings focus to strengths and areas needing improvement

The Index’s Threshold Analysis summarizes the results of the school’s data in each of the components of the survey. The Threshold Analysis highlights areas of strength and areas needing attention. The information in the report allows a school team to make the best decisions possible based on information specific to their school.

Offers web-based technology

The survey is accessed through an online portal and is completed by teachers, parents, and students (in high schools). At the conclusion of the data collection process, the comprehensive report with charts, graphs, and narratives is automatically generated by the online system.



Family Engagement Tool

The five steps of the FET guide a school team (including parents) in assessing every aspect of its family engagement programs and practices. The FET helps the school determine needs, set priorities, and develop a plan for a strengthened school community. The Family Engagement Tool...

Brings focus to strengths and areas needing improvement

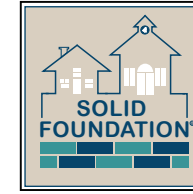
This 5-step tool: 1) provides rubrics to assess key school policies (or procedural documents), 2) presents a team survey to offer insights into the effectiveness of current practices, and 3) includes a needs assessment which identifies areas of family engagement for the school improvement plan. For Title I schools, the FET’s rubrics use the Non-Regulatory Guidance as the basic measure, but show how the school can move beyond compliance.

Provides a rich library of resources

FET not only provides the assessment necessary to develop a strong improvement plan, it also gives access to a rich library of family engagement materials. The materials are aligned with the assessment tools and include hundreds of planning tools, family engagement curricula, and professional development programs. Many materials for families are available in English and Spanish.

Offers web-based technology

The tool’s web-based technology enables a school teams to enter data, submit forms, and access a library of resources from one convenient location. Its administrative features allow for a cost-effective and efficient method to monitor a school’s progress with family engagement.



Solid Foundation®

Every building project begins with a detailed plan. ADI’s signature program, Solid Foundation, is a comprehensive blueprint for building

strong school communities. Its systematic agendas work to ensure that all students develop a “solid foundation” as:

- Self-directed learners,
- Avid and literate readers, and
- Responsible people who respect themselves and others

Solid Foundation...

Brings focus to practices that strengthen school communities

Solid Foundation’s® agendas lead the School Community Council (SCC) in implementing a comprehensive model that includes every aspect of a strong school community.

Provides a structured framework

With the support of a trained coach and under the guidance of the detailed agendas, the SCC uses the tools and resources in Solid Foundation’s® Building Block framework (Shared Leadership, Goals and Roles, Communication, Education, Connection, and Continuous Improvement) to implement evidence-based family engagement practices.

Offers web-based technology

Solid Foundation’s® technology allows the SCC to enter data, generate reports, track progress, access a library of abundant resources, and receive coaching and support all from one convenient internet location. Administrative features provide for cost-effective and efficient monitoring of implementation progress as well as a means to easily communicate with the SCC through the web-based coaching system.