## PBIS Family Night Namaqua Elementary School Loveland, CO





During the 2022-2023 school year, Namaqua Elementary revamped their PBIS and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) systems. The school wanted to include families as part of this process. They created a PBIS Family Night where staff led stations to teach families the strategies practiced at school and how they could use these same strategies at home. The goal was to build a partnership with families and provide them with resources to support their child's social emotional needs. The entire staff, PBIS team, and PTA joined together to plan, create, and implement the Family Night.

Families were invited to Family Night to participate in hands on activities that focused on family growth and social emotional needs. The PTA provided dinner for everyone who attended. There were a variety of activities for families to participate in throughout the night. Families were able to make a mindfulness jar, their own PBIS Matrix, a talking piece to use for family circle time, and learn cozy corner and incentive ideas to use at home. The event also provided a photo booth and yoga room for families. As families participated in the evening, students received stamps on their game board. When they completed their game board, they

received a ticket to put in a drawing for a prize. Families also completed a survey to give feedback about the evening. When the survey was completed, they received another ticket for the prize drawing. All prizes were activities for families to participate in such as bowling, laser tag, dinner gift card, movie passes, and museum passes.

The evening was evaluated by feedback from the families. Sixty families participated and gave feedback. Every family that participated in the evening loved it. Families shared what activity they felt would be the most beneficial to use at home. The families loved the evening so much, they asked to have similar events more often.

The advice Namaqua staff would give to those hoping to replicate this program would be to create a plan that provides plenty of time to accomplish all the needed tasks. Also, give families plenty of notice to ensure solid engagement. Lastly, make the event unique to your school and connect it to your students, families, and culture.