Working Within Your School Division to Increase Parent Involvement:

Telling a Story Worth Hearing
Parent Involvement Question #1:

How are we communicating with parents?

(What communication tools are we using?)
Parent Involvement Question #2:

What message are we communicating with parents?

(The MUCH more important question.)
A Book Report…
A Million Miles in a Thousand Years
by Donald Miller
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- Making movie based on his best-seller, *Blue Like Jazz*, but had to create a new story because his own life was too boring
- What makes a story worth watching?
  A Character who:
  - Saves the cat
  - Wants something big
  - Overcomes conflict
  - Builds relationships that lead to something meaningful
- We all are created to live meaningful stories – stories worth watching!
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“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal”
Three Things Schools Must Believe

1. What we offer matters!

2. We can cause families to feel connected to our schools!

3. We can make a difference in the lives of students and families!
Some things are worth believing in...
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Someone once asked Socrates what the best way was to get to Mt. Olympus. Socrates replied, “By making sure that every step you take is in that direction.”
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Does your school communicate a Big Picture?
Three Things Families Must Believe

1. Our school offers something that matters!
2. The system is there for us!
3. Our school is improving our lives!
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The more influential aspect of … education is often what might be called wayside teaching. By wayside teaching I mean the teaching that is done between classes, when walking in the halls, after school, and in dozens and dozens of one-on-one encounters, however brief.

-John Lounsbury
### Personal Connections

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<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Plan for making a connection and building a relationship</th>
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**One Personal Connection Per Student Per Week**

**Intentional Wayside Teaching Goals**
success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming

John R. Wooden, Head Basketball Coach, Emeritus, UCLA

THE PYRAMID OF SUCCESS
We must *intentionally* “save the cat” and win families over. It doesn’t happen *accidentally*.

We must *intentionally* communicate a big picture that excites people. It doesn’t happen enough *accidentally*.

We must *intentionally* set out to motivate and inspire students and to teach them about life. They are not inspired *accidentally*.
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Are you intentional or accidental?
What’s your Mt. Olympus...
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