Cultural Sharing Tips

These actions describe how families and educators can actively share about their cultures. Broadly speaking, *culture* is a shared system of spoken and unspoken values, beliefs, and behaviors transmitted in a variety of ways and passed down from generation to generation within a family, school, and/or community. Schools, classrooms, and families each have their own cultures. Culture sharing occurs when school professionals and families recognize, attempt to understand, and appreciate the others’ cultures. Culture sharing supports the students who live in both worlds by helping adults communicate and understand.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Family Sharing** | **School Sharing** |
| Share:   * Beliefs and expectations for education to enhance student school success. * Important points about culture (e.g. food preferences, affiliations, etc.). * Customs, routines, and rituals important to family and/or culture. * Previous experiences with schooling and/or schools. * Hopes and dreams for the children’s futures. * Children’s unique strengths, personality, and accomplishments (likes/dislikes). * Ways learning can be supported at home that might fit for the family and its culture. * Ideas for successful family, school, and community partnering. * Process and solutions when there are problems. * Resources, supports, and actions that might be helpful from the school and/or community. | Share:   * Beliefs and expectations for education to enhance student school success. * Important points about culture (e.g. expectations, mission, vision, rules etc.). * Customs, routines, and rituals that make a school/classroom work. * School’s previous experiences with different cultures. * Hopes and dreams for all students’ futures. * All students’ strengths, persistence, and overall successes. * Ways families can support learning at home that have been shown to be effective and how might fit with family and its culture. * Ideas for successful family, school, and community partnering. * Process and solutions when are problems. * Resources, supports, and actions that might be helpful from the school and/or community. |

Adapted from Lines, Miller, & Arthur-Stanley, 2011.