***The Parent Connection* Discussion Questions**

*After reading chapters one and two, consider the following questions and be prepared for discussion at the next meeting.*

**Chapter 1**

* Dr. Joni talks about a school’s *well-being quotient*. Consider your school and answer the following questions: How does your school feel? How does your school feel to you? To your teachers? To the kids? To the parents? To the community?
* What are your reactions to the section of this chapter titled ***Ending the Mess We’re In***?
* What evidence do you see of the connection between student grades and parent involvement at your school?

**Chapter 2**

* Dr. Joni says, “Empowered parents feel more comfortable collaborating with teachers, and their support for the whole school then increases.” In what ways are families empowered at your school?
* What similarities do you see between the P-TAG Support System and our district’s Family Engagement planning system?

**Chapter 3**

* Consider the attitudes of your staff. What conversations go on in the staff lounge? What comments are made during meeting? How have you seen staff attitudes shape the culture of your school?
* How do the attitudes of staff member impact their connections to families?

**Chapter 4**

* What is your school vision? How do your family engagement policy and goals support that vision?
* Do you see a connection do you see between building relationships with families and their engagement with student learning at your school?
* What opportunities are available for parents to volunteer, support, learn, and/or observe at your school?  What is the process for parents to get involved?