# **School as a Welcoming Place - Creating a Sense of Community**

#### Set the tone

- Use friendly informational signs in families' home languages
- Display students' work -
- Talk with other teachers and support staff, so everyone can partner in making the school welcoming

### Take advantage of professional development opportunities

- Prepare for interactions with families by learning more about culture, communication, etc.
- Rehearse using everyday language without acronyms or educational jargon

# cultures

- learning
- Use what you learn in interactions-for example, some families may be more comfortable with a group meeting rather than individual conferences

### **Encourage family participation in association throughout the school year**

- Hold shared celebrations with the entire school community
- Highlight learning in school community events
- Offer various ways for families to interact with one another

ADI. (2019). A guide for educators: Helping families engage in their children's learning. https://www.schoolcommunitynetwork.org/docs/EducatorsGuide.pdf Redding, S., Murphy, M., & Sheley, P. (2011). Handbook on family and community engagement (FACE). Information Age. https://www.schoolcommunitynetwork.org/downloads/FACEHandbook.pdf



## **Invite students and families to** share about their home

- Use what you learn in the classroom, tying into student



