



**PARENTS
INTERNATIONAL**

#NewEducationDeal #ParentsFirst

Leveraging parents' experiences during school
closure for renewing education

ESHA Biennial Conference

"School Leadership 2020+: Trends & Challenges",
20 May 2022, Limassol, Cyprus

What is #NewEducationDeal #ParentsFirst?

- A future-oriented, forward-looking initiative by parents
- Based on research and hands-on experiences
- Highlighting weaknesses of schools that became more visible during closures
- Using the opportunity to define a „new normal” that can be considered normal
- With the best interest of all children in mind
- For SDG4: quality, inclusive education for all





YOU SHALL NOT PASS!



Why #ParentFirst?

- Primary educator – first & most impacting
- Scaffolder
- Gatekeeper



Parental engagement in school re-imagined

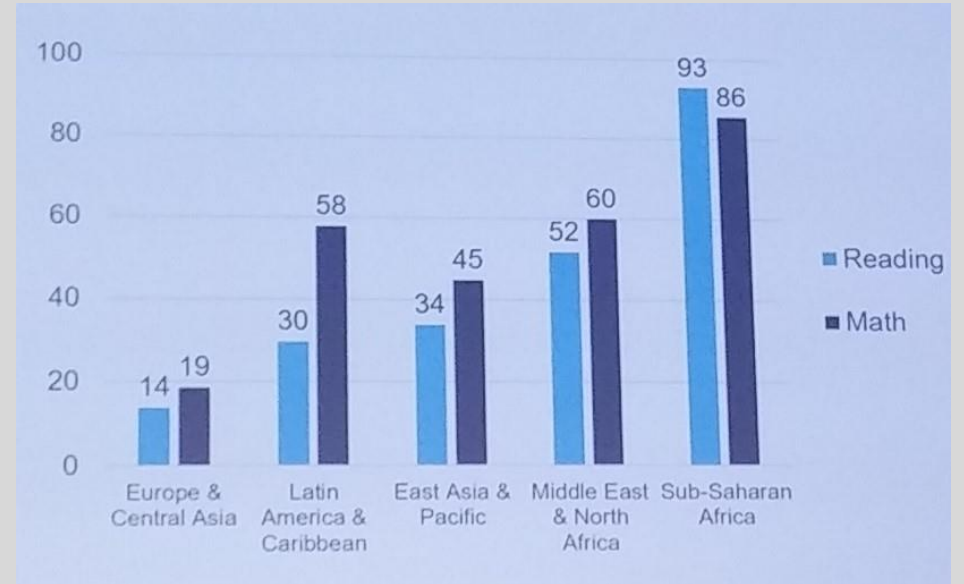
“A school striving for family involvement often leads with its mouth - identifying projects, needs, and goals and then telling parents how they can contribute.” In contrast, “a school striving for parent engagement leads with its ears—listening to what parents think, dream, and worry about. The goal of family engagement is not to serve clients but to gain partners”

Ferlazzo 2011.

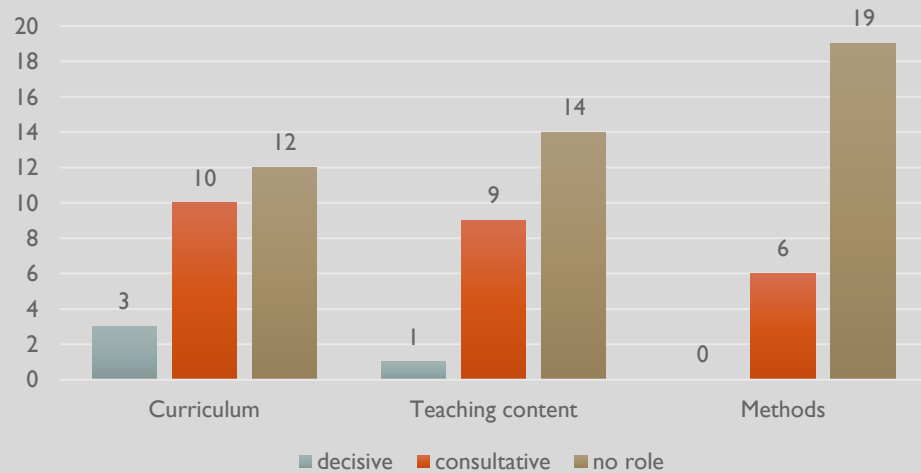


Research-base

- World Bank: children are at school, but not learning
 - CEE 22% reading, 37% maths



Parents in schooling



- Own research:
 - schools rarely make co-decisions with parents



Parents have spoken

Are schools and governments listening?

NewEducationDeal – Parents First – global research among parents on their experiences with school and the first school closures, input on millions' experiences via parent leaders, and country surveys (eg. 27.000 individual parents replied in Hungary)

⇒ Parents International call for action and subsequent action in various countries

Findings echoed by

Council of Europe research end of 2020 – 21.042 parents from 47 countries

Brookings Institute research Spring 2021– 25.000 parents globally



COVID-19 learning points



School as a place for social learning



Clear division of educational tasks between the home and school – for equity



Agreement on what is basic



Focus on well-being – arts, sports, child-friendly methods and school schedules



Re-imagine assessment and abolish tests



Keep using digital tools



TEACHERS' UNDERSTANDING AND ACKNOWLEDGING FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES



Parents role in education

- Primary educator - first & most impacting
- Scaffolder
- Gatekeeper



Current programmes and collaboration opportunities

- Trainings for school leaders, teachers, parents and students
- Independent research
- Supporting school rejuvenation – joint programmes with governments and education organisations
- Policy support – OECD, EU, UNESCO, CoE

Main topics

- Parental engagement for all
- Meaningful child participation
- Inclusion in education
- Open schooling
- Digital support for learning
- Educator skills development



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