

## ***Engaging and Re-engaging Students and Families***

Enhancing motivation is a central concern in all efforts to improve schools. That is why engagement and re-engagement are foundational considerations in unifying and developing a comprehensive and equitable system of learning supports.

So, as part of the 2015 National Initiative for Transforming Student and Learning Supports,\* we are widely providing free and easy access to the Center's continuing education modules on *Engaging and Re-engaging Students and Families*. See

>Module I: *Motivation: Time to Move Beyond Behavior Modification* --

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/engagei.pdf>

>Module II: *Strategic Approaches to Enhancing Student Engagement and Re-engagement* --

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/engageii.pdf>

>Module III: *Enhancing Family Engagement and Re-engagement* --

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/engageiii.pdf>

>Module IV: *Embedding Engagement and Re-engagement into a Unified and Comprehensive System of Student and Learning Supports* --

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/engageiv.pdf>

Feel free to adapt these resources. Consider ways they can be offered for continuing education credit.

The set of four modules provides a perspective on motivation that goes beyond mainly reinforcing and enforcing behavior. The emphasis is on:

- expanding understanding of engagement, re-engagement, and intrinsic motivation in the context of school improvement and school climate
- highlighting strategic approaches to engaging and re-engaging students, with special attention to avoiding over-reliance on extrinsic reinforcers and minimizing practices that can produce reactance
- engaging and re-engaging families by attending to differences among families and other primary caretakers with respect to resources, motivation and needs, and barriers to involvement with the school
- stressing that teachers can't and should not be expected to do it all alone. Rather their work needs to be embedded into a unified and comprehensive system of learning supports and that system should be built with a view to engaging and re-engaging students, families, and all the professionals who have a stake in improving schools.