



# Strong LEA/School Relationship



**Before You Watch**

## ► Discussion Questions

1. Describe the ideal school and district partnership?
2. What are the essential features of a strong district-school relationship?
3. Give examples of how open communication could be fostered between districts, parents, teachers, support staff, and community members.
4. What is our district's mission or vision and how does it compare to our school's mission or vision?
5. What are some ways our school and district can jointly establish buy-in with teachers and staff for new initiatives?



## ► Group Activity

*Write a letter to a leader in our district to share about some of our school's successes.*



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## ► Discussion Questions

1. Share two noteworthy moments related to Strong/LEA school relationship from the video.
2. What role does our district currently play in SWIFT implementation, and how could they enhance or sustain this role?
3. What role does our district currently play in meeting our professional learning needs, and how could it be enhanced or sustained this role?
4. Policy is made up of the governing documents of a school and district. Examples include, but are not limited to handbooks, technology guidelines, or hiring procedures. Which, if any, stakeholder groups are currently involved in policy development? How might others get involved?

## ► Group Activity

*Plan ways to communicate with parents, teachers, support staff, community members, and district leadership about SWIFT transformational practices. Examples include newsletters, website link,*

## VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

A Local Education Agency, also known as an LEA or school district, partners with the school to promote a shared vision and foster excellent and inclusive teaching and learning. Strong LEA/School Relationships use policy to formally organize and integrate the various initiatives and programs conducted within a school, which lead to better instruction and more effective use of resources. This working relationship fosters open communication between parents, teachers, support staff, and community members. Open lines of communication support healthy relationships and a positive culture, and ultimately, nurture inclusive transformation. When policy is used to organize and integrate programs across the school community, students experience successful transition from grade to grade, school to school, and achieve positive post- high school outcomes. A Strong LEA / School Relationship unites school communities to provide a coordinated education for all.



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## After You Watch

### ► Discussion Questions

1. Identify current policies that pose barriers to SWIFT implementation. What recommendations could we make to remove these barriers?
2. Which district leaders are currently included in our school team meetings? What opportunities do we have to invite or increase their participation?
3. Schools and districts often have effective, yet informal, procedures and practices. When formal policies are written, they can help ensure these procedures and practices sustain over time, even if leadership changes. What informal procedures or practices do we have that would be appropriate to formalize as written policies?



### ► Group Activity

*Examine our school and/or district handbook. Identify components of the handbook that we think are vital and necessary for guiding school practices. Make suggestions for any revisions we think would help provide clarity about school/LEA practices or procedures.*