APPLY IT! SCHOOL LEADER ACTIVITIES

We advise you to first look at the Apply It! Teacher Activities feature and reflect on your purpose for reading this book before thinking about how you can lead change in your school about parental involvement in mathematics. Once you have reflected, consider making it a school initiative to focus on parental involvement. To do this, in the beginning of the year, host a staff meeting where you have staff both reflect on their current practices for involving parents in better understanding math as it's taught today and discuss ways in which all stakeholders in the school could be better at actively involving families in this matter. Here's how it could look:

1. State the goals and objectives of the meeting.

2. Ask staff to reflect on what they currently do to help parents better understand the way in which we teach math today. Provide sticky notes so staff can write one idea on each note. Consider using the guiding questions from this chapter as the reflection questions.

3. Post chart paper around the room with various headings, such as **Written Communication**, **In-Person Communication**, **Digital Communication**, **Events**, and any other general category. Make sure the headings are very general and broad, so as to capture anticipated responses within the topic.

4. Ask staff to place their sticky notes under the most closely aligned heading.

5. Step back and look as a faculty. Use the following guiding questions for support.

   GUIDING QUESTIONS

   a. What are we doing well? How can we improve what we already do well?

   b. Which area or category is lacking? What is the cause?

   c. What is missing that should be there?

   d. Which areas can we improve?

   e. What is holding us back?

   f. What obstacles are in our way? How do we remove them or work around or through them?

6. Choose one of those broad headings as your initial starting ground for improving family engagement around math.

Apply It! icon source: PeterSnow/iStock.com.