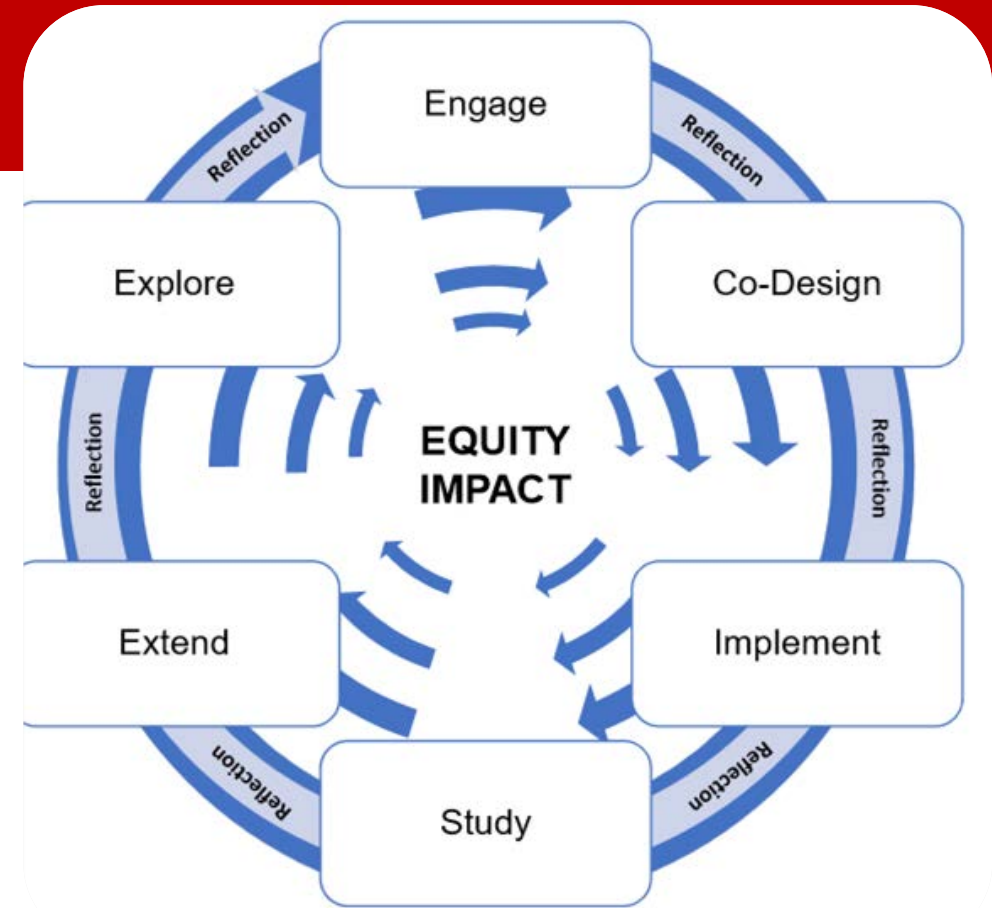


We Are Family: Formally Connecting Community-Based Out of School Time Providers and Public Schools to Enhance Family Engagement

- **(Explore)** My policy project is to encourage the state of Texas, through connecting with state elected leaders and working with regional OST intermediaries to incentivize school districts with Title 1 schools to partner with local, community-based out-of-school-time programs in order to bridge the gap between the intent and enactment of family engagement/parent involvement policies outlined in the Title 1 section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).
- **(Engage)** I've discussed this project with the Jenna Courtney, the TXPOST executive director and she is excited and in agreement with this project and can see the need and value. I have also received positive feedback from two OST regional intermediaries and the leadership of the Region 16 Parent and Family Engagement Department
- **(Implement)** Although this was a legislative session like no other due to COVID and the myriad of issues that legislative session dealt with, in addition to the logistical and safety concerns, I attempted to visit with as many elected officials throughout the state of Texas to share my idea. I will also continue to attempt to visit with as many TEA administrators and directors as I can. And lastly, I will continue to attempt to connect with the OST intermediaries to build excitement and synergy and maximize the TxPost coalition.
- **(Study)** Hopefully, within the next two to three legislative sessions we would have made significant progress highlighting the need and articulating how the state can assist in connecting community-based OST providers and schools in a more state- wide formalized manner.



The IEL Equity Impact Framework

Edward L. Franklin, Texas EPFP 2020-2021 Fellow



We Are Family: Formally Connecting Community-Based Out of School Time Providers and Public Schools to Enhance Family Engagement

- **Future Directions:** Continue to work with the Texas Partnership for Out of School Time and their regional partners: Dallas Afterschool, Fort Worth SPARC, Excel Beyond the Bell -San Antonio, Learn All The Time (LATT), Borderland Out of School Time (BOOST) Network, Out2Learn Houston and Harris County Department of Education- CASE for kids to gather support to prayerfully lobby their respective legislators.
 - Coalition Building: Terri Stafford suggested that I begin to start coalition building with orgs that may also support my policy idea. NABSE – National Association of Black School Educators <https://www.nabse.org/> TABSE – Texas Association of Black School Educators <https://www.tabse.net/> and others.
 - Build relationships with elected officials during ”off-season”

