Let’s Talk about Policies
(Adapted from Baker & Manfredi-Pettit, 2004, p. 176-178.)

- How do your center’s policies strengthen relationships between adults? Between adults and children?

- Do any of your center’s policies weaken or undermine relationships? Which policies?

- What do you need to know to establish policies that are more supportive of adult relationships?

- Do your center’s policies support caring connections with parents that go beyond cordiality?

- Do its policies limit staff relationships with families? Why?

- Do you need to make changes in staff scheduling so relationship priorities are put first? For instance, is there frequent contact between parents and their child’s primary caregiver?

- Is family participation a shared value and goal among center staff? Among parents?

- Does your center feel like home?

- Is relationship and community building a program-wide goal?