

Pre-K Family Engagement Plan

INTRODUCTION

The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement, support family well-being, and the continuous learning and development of children, families, and educators. Family engagement is fully integrated in the child's educational experience and is both culturally and linguistically appropriate." Texas Administrative Code §102.1003.

Kidwell Elementary is committed to making parents/guardians, community members, and educators full partners with Iowa Park CISD, empowering families to support the early learning and development of children and by providing families educational opportunities and resources to ensure lifelong success.

We have created this family engagement plan that reflects practices that enhance parent and community involvement and reflect the specific needs of early learners. This document highlights the various examples of the multitude of strategies that our campus may select to participate in, based on the individual needs of the students and parents of that campus, which will include the six family engagement plan components. Some activities will meet more than one component and could be applicable to both.

FACILITATE FAMILY TO FAMILY SUPPORT

- Create a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups.
- Teddy Bear Camp
- "Meet the Teacher" at the beginning of each year
- Parent/Teacher communication in person or phone conference
- Fall Open House
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Special Events and Field Trips
- PTA Music Program
- PTO meetings and officer elections

ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- Link families with support systems, peer to peer groups, and various resources depending on family needs
- Communicate short- and long-term program goals to all stakeholders
- Partnerships with community-based organizations, such as but not limited to: Child and Family Services, Wichita and Iowa Park Area Food Banks, Hawks Fighting Hunger, Wichita Falls Association of Realtors, Iowa Park Fire Department.
- “Meet the Teacher” Night
- Trained LPAC parent members

INCREASE FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

- Parent conferences
- Campus/District social media (Remind, DoJo, See Saw, Facebook)
- Campus/District webpage
- Parents will be included in Campus/District Improvement Plan

EQUIP FAMILIES WITH TOOLS TO ENHANCE AND EXTEND LEARNING

- Listen to parents before speaking to gain an understanding of their needs or situation.
- Approach parents as equal partners in their child’s education while emphasizing parents as the child’s first teacher.
- Provide parent engagement ideas and learning activities for families to do at home in the areas of literacy, math, science, fine and gross motor, and independence through information shared in newsletters, online technology, social media, parent/teacher conferences, and or other school related events.
- Social Media posts offering suggestions for parents to appropriately respond to children’s behavior in a non-punitive, positive, and supportive way.
- Provide many opportunities for “Pre-K Enrollment Night” to enroll students for the next year.
- Academic reports for parents on their student’s progress: CLI Engage
- Weekly homework and/or information letters from teachers.
- Provide many opportunities for Pre-K student enrollments for the following year.

DEVELOP STAFF SKILLS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

- Develop staff skills to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies. We always try to remember who our customer is as we support and serve students and their families.
- Teachers participate in feedback with families using various approaches.

EVALUATE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Conduct at least two parent conferences to identify strengths, interest and needs.
- Use data to monitor for effective & continuous family engagement.
- Ensure teachers play a role in the family engagement evaluation process.
- Invite family members to be volunteers in our school.
- Parent/Campus Needs Assessment Survey.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Kidwell Elementary hopes to use this Family Engagement Plan to promote shared responsibility to increase and enhance the collaboration of district staff with parents. All efforts will be focused on improving the education of all students in an innovative way that will help them become lifelong learners who will be able to be successful and compete in an ever-changing world.

