

HEDLEY CISD FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2018-2019

For High Quality Pre-Kindergarten

The Hedley CISD Family Engagement Plan supports the district's position that a child's family is an essential part of the child's physical, intellectual, and social-emotional development. The importance of the family's role in preparing a child for school and then supporting the child throughout the early years of school and beyond has been well-supported by research. We recognize and value a strong and healthy relationship with each Pre-K student's family. The Hedley CISD Family Engagement Plan has been developed to foster an impactful partnership between the school, the families of our students, and our community. It is developed in accordance with Rider 78 and Commissioner's Rule 102.1003(f).

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Hedley CISD Family Engagement Plan is based on the following Guiding Principles for Quality Family Engagement (TEA, 2018):

1. Fostering Reciprocal Relationships

The families of Hedley CISD's Pre-K students are a valued source of information about their child's development and learning needs. As such, Hedley CISD strives to establish a relationship with parents that is based on trust, respect, and two-way communication.

2. Orientation Toward Positive Child Outcomes

All of the activities and strategies included in the Hedley CISD Family Engagement Plan are developed to promote positive educational outcomes for the child and will help to communicate the expectations for students in Hedley CISD's High Quality Pre-K Program. All family engagement policies and practices will consider the information that families, teachers, and student achievement data contribute to the overall picture of the child's needs.

3. Connecting to Family, Community, and School Needs

Hedley CISD's Family Engagement Plan considers the needs of the child's family, the community, and the school. Multiple sources of information are used to identify the practices and policies needed to meet the collective needs of all stakeholders in the district's Pre-K program.

4. Planning with Family Input and Involvement

Part of Hedley CISD's endeavor to effectively involve the families of Pre-K students is to assist families in developing their own ability and confidence to become and remain involved with their child's education. We believe that the best approach for ensuring that the district's efforts to involve families in a meaningful way requires practices that include families in the ongoing improvement of family engagement efforts.

5. Being Culturally and Linguistically Responsive

Hedley CISD values the culture and language of its Pre-K students and their families. We believe that a diverse and inclusive atmosphere will result from family engagement efforts that capitalize on the rich cultural contributions of our student and their families to the educational process. Our family engagement efforts will be focused on cultural and linguistic responsiveness so that all families – regardless of language or culture – will feel like welcomed, valued, and competent partners in their children’s education.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The Hedley CISD Family Engagement Plan contains six components that ensure that family engagement is completely integrated into the child’s pre-kindergarten experience. The components also develop families, the community, and the school as mutual partners in early childhood education, while also recognizing and honoring the individuality and uniqueness of families. The six components are:

Facilitating Family-to-Family Support

Hedley CISD will create a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other, by:

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Class room parties
- Field trips
- Pre-k round up
- Title 1 meetings
- Open house

Establishing a Network of Community Resources

Hedley CISD will build strategic partnerships and leverage community resources that support families, by:

- Establishing and maintaining partnerships with local businesses, faith-based organizations and community agencies by presenting families with the opportunities to learn about such topics as local libraries, financial literacy, personal safety, physical/mental health options, and nutrition.
- Using funding from the High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program to foster and increase community connections and resources.

Increasing Family Participation in Decision-Making

Hedley CISD will invest in the capacity of families to engage in program decision-making and self-advocacy by:

- Provide opportunities for parent to be involved and have a voice: PTO, Campus and District site – based committees, District Strategic plan committees
- Foster comfortable open dialog between families and school by utilizing all available resources and means of communication:

- Daily Communication Journals
- Class Dojo
- Social Media
- Home Visits
- Parent – Teacher Conferences
- Phone calls
- Email
- Volunteers in classrooms
- Remind

Equipping Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning

Hedley CISD will provide the support and resources families need to create a learning environment at home by:

- At Parent Conferences and Home Visits, teachers share ideas for supporting learning at home – provide any necessary materials (flash cards, crayons/pencils, counters, etc.)

Developing Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting Their Children’s Learning Benchmarks

Hedley CISD will provide professional development for staff in effective communication and culturally responsive family engagement by:

- Parent – Teacher Conferences
- All Pre-Kindergarten teachers will attend a minimum of 30 hours of professional development during the 2017-2018 school year, including Pre-Kindergarten Academy through Region 16 ESC

Evaluating Family Engagement Efforts and Using Evaluations for Continuous Improvement

Hedley CISD will ensure ongoing improvement of family engagement by collecting, analyzing, and aligning data to family engagement policies and activities. This will be accomplished by:

- Make end of year survey available in multiple forms to collect feedback from families
- Keep record of family participations/attendance in school events
- Log communications with families

CONCLUSION

Hedley CISD believes that family engagement in High Quality Pre-Kindergarten classrooms is the responsibility of schools, families and communities. The district’s Family Engagement Plan strives to facilitate positive student outcomes for our preschool learners, while fostering family well-being and the ongoing development of children, their families and their teachers.

