

# Gholson ISD

## Family Engagement Plan

### OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

According to the Texas Education Code, a school district shall develop, implement and make available on the district's website a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes towards education. An effective family engagement plan creates a foundation for the collaboration of mutual partners, embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child-centered, age-appropriate and family-driven.

Gholson ISD has developed a family engagement plan that will bring family, community, and educators together to support early learning and development of children. 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.

#### A. Facilitate family-to-family support using strategies such as:

- Activities building positive and productive relationships where families can learn from each other
- Provide a safe environment at each campus to promote family engagement, considering the different barriers that hinder family involvement.
- “Meet The Teacher” at the beginning of each year
- Contacts with every parent from her/his child’s teacher before school begins by letter or phone call

#### B. Establishing a network of community resources using strategies such as:

- Build community partnerships with community
- Maintain a relationship with city wide organizations to enhance adult and child learning

- Provide information on Child Find for students
- Host Round-Ups annually for incoming PK and K students and their parents

### **C. Increase family participation in decision-making using strategies such as:**

- Families will be given the opportunity to give input on campus climate surveys and/or feedback on various programs
- Parents will be included in the District Improvement Committee, as well as Campus Improvement Committees on each campus

### **D. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning using strategies such as:**

- Individual family conferences (Phone/Face-to-face) at the end of the first 6 weeks with every Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten parent to discuss their child's academic progress
- Providing all Pre-K parents, a yearly calendar
- Weekly Homework and/or Information letters from teachers
- Remote Learning and Face to Face Learning Support

### **E. Assist staff in developing skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks using strategies such as:**

- Provide staff training to ensure that they are building relational capacity with students and parents
- Provide professional development that focuses on crucial conversations
- Provide knowledge on the importance of family engagement and promote it district-wide.

### **F. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement using strategies such as:**

- Set child-centered goals with parents and meet periodically throughout the year in order to discuss the progress that has been made

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the Gholson Independent School District 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.