

Ezzell ISD PreK Family Engagement Plan

The Ezzell ISD prekindergarten creates a foundation for student learning, family engagement and partnership, and meaningful family school and interaction.

Family—These are the adults responsible for the child’s care and children in the child’s life who support the early learning and development of the child.

Family engagement--The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities is to build relationships that support student learning and achievement, family well-being, and the continuous learning and development of children, families, and educators. Family engagement is fully integrated into the child’s educational experience, supports the whole child, and is both culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate.

Family Engagement Plan—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.

The family engagement plan will:

- A. Facilitate family to family support using strategies such as:
 - I. Creating a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups: (Ex. Meet the Teacher Night, Thanksgiving Meal, Easter Picnic)
 - II. Inviting former program participants to share their child and family’s Pre-K experiences with current families (Ex. PTO meetings, Christmas Play, Easter Picnic)
- B. Establish a network of community resources using strategies such as:
 - I. Leveraging community resources such as STAR Program, Department of Public Health and Human services.
- C. Increase family participation in decision-making using strategies such as:
 - I. Providing each family with an opportunity to review and provide input on program practices, policies, communications, and events in order to ensure the program is responsive to the needs of families through end of year surveys.
 - II. Developing, adopting, and implementing identified goals within the annual campus/school improvement plan targeting family engagement.
- D. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning using strategies such as:
 - I. Offering opportunities for families and children to visit the school in advance of the prekindergarten school year during meet the teacher night.
 - II. Providing families with their child’s progress-monitoring information and offer suggested activities related to the age-appropriate developmental expectations during face-to-face parent conferences twice a year.

- III. Encouraging family members to volunteer in the classroom.
- E. Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks using strategies such as:
 - I. Promoting and developing family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff. (Training children to greet and say good-bye to parents and their classmates. Making space available for staff to meet with parents privately.)