



## **LORAIN ISD FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN (2021-2022)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Loraine Independent School District (LISD) is committed to making parents/guardians, community members and educators as full partners with LISD, empowering families to support the early learning and development of children and by providing families educational opportunities and resources to ensure lifelong success.

In accordance with the Commissioner's Rule 102.1003 (f), LISD will establish the following family engagement strategies that are based on best practices research to support student learning, achievement, and family well-being. These practices are proven to demonstrate positive short-term and long-term outcomes for early childhood education. 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.

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

- 1) Activities building positive and productive relationships where families can learn from each other.
- 2) Provide a safe environment at each campus to promote family engagement considering the different barriers that hinder family involvement.
- 3) "Meet The Teacher" at the beginning of each year.
- 4) "Meet and Greet" in which families get to know one another during the first week of school.
- 5) Family events, including Veteran's Day program and Christmas Program.
- 6) Contacts with every parent from his/her child's teacher before school begins by letter or phone call.

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

- 1) Build partnerships with community.
- 2) Maintain a relationship with city wide organizations to enhance adult and child learning.
- 3) Provide volunteer opportunities for community partners.
- 4) Provide an opportunity for all information to be translated for families that speak a language other than English at home.
- 5) Host Roundups annually for incoming PK students and their parents.

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

- 1) Provide families with the opportunity to give input on campus climate surveys and/or feedback on various programs.
- 2) Include parents in the District Improvement Committee.
- 3) Parents will be given a chance to fill out an intake questionnaire about their child at the beginning of the school year.

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

- 1) Individual family conferences (Phone/Face-to-face) at the end of the first 6 weeks with every Pre-Kindergarten parent to discuss their child's academic progress.
- 2) All Pre-K parents will be provided a yearly calendar in English and Spanish.
- 3) Weekly Homework and/or Information letters from teachers.
- 4) A monthly calendar will be shared with all Pre-K parents of classroom activities, so families know what students are doing.

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

- 1) Provide staff training to ensure that they are building relational capacity with students and parents.
- 2) Provide professional development that focuses on crucial conversations.
- 3) Provide knowledge on the importance of family engagement and promote it district wide.
- 4) Hire staff that represents the diversity of the surrounding community.

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

- 1) Set child-centered goals with parents and meet periodically throughout the year in order to discuss the progress that has been made.
- 2) Survey families at least once per year about the effectiveness of the prekindergarten experience for the child and family.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the Loraine 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.