



Rule Independent School District

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High Quality Prekindergarten Engagement Plan

“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.

Rule ISD, in accordance with the House Bill 3 High-Quality Prekindergarten guidelines, created a High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan to promote partnership between our school, families, and community to ensure the successful outcomes for our youngest learners in prekindergarten programs. Collaboratively, we all share the responsibility to encourage and support initiatives, activities, and practices that enhance the success of student learning and achievement.

Family Engagement Plan Development Committee Members: Paul Harris, Debbie Wilkinson, Sabra Turner, Jamie Torres, Sara Salinas, Kira Poteet, and Renee Harris.

Contact Person for Families: Sara Salinas

Family Engagement Plan Component: Facilitate Family to Family Support

Component Description: Inclusive, transparent communications allow school personnel to create a safe and respectful environment to promote supportive interaction between households.

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing: Rule ISD Prekindergarten program creates a safe and welcoming environment where families can network and learn from each other, participate in educational opportunities designed for families, while growing school/community support systems such as:

- School and classroom volunteering.

- “Book Fair” where families can get to know one another and share experiences.
- Meet the Teacher Night which facilitates family-to-family interactions and networking.
- Rule ISD meetings and sponsored events encouraging parent volunteer opportunities allowing parents to work collaboratively and designed to match families who have similar interests, goals, or challenges and providing opportunities for families to have ongoing connection
- Class field trips and other activities that include family participation.
- School Health and Advisory Council and Site Based Decision Making Teams provide opportunities for parents to interact and network with other parents interested in supporting public education in the Rule ISD community
- Rule ISD PK Round-up. Early indicators of the following year enrollment.

Family Engagement Plan Component: Establish a network of community events

Component Description: Rule ISD will build strategic partnerships with community organizations to leverage community resources for caregivers through the community resources handbook, and ongoing district wide events.

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing: Rule ISD PK Family Engagement plan is part of a district-wide initiative which builds strategic partnerships by leveraging community resources with non profit organizations, faith-based organizations, businesses, and local community-based organizations, including mental and physical health providers to create a family-friendly transition for students. Some of these resources include:

- District Student Support, Special Education Parent Support and Early Childhood Family Services, LPAC, PAC departments facilitate student and family needs referrals for basic necessities, student and parent physical and mental health needs.
- Bilingual employees provide (as needed) translation services for families at events, meetings, etc. RISD PK Family Engagement plan is part of a district-wide initiative which builds strategic partnerships by leveraging community resources with non profit organizations, faith-based organizations, businesses, and local community-based organizations, including mental and physical health providers to create a family-friendly transition for students Organizations will create a network of resources that will directly benefit Prekindergarten families as needed.
- Some of these resources include: District Student Support, Special Education Parent Support & Early Childhood Family Services, LPAC, PAC departments facilitate student and family needs referrals for basic necessities, student and parent physical and mental health needs.
- Bilingual employees provide (as needed) translation services for families at events, meetings, etc.

Family Engagement Plan Component: Increase family participation in district and school wide decision making empowers caregivers as their child’s first teacher and advocate.

Component Description: Throughout the year, participation in district and school-wide decision making empowers caregivers as their child’s first teacher and advocate.

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing: Examples of some of the opportunities prekindergarten families can participate in are:

- Campus Site-Based Decision-Making Committee composed of staff, community partners, parents, and business representatives focusing on improving the achievement of all learners at the campus.
- District Student Health Advisory Committee
- District Improvement Plan committee
- LPAC/PAC Parent participation
- Regularly held parent/teacher conferences and all Title I events
- Educating families regarding their rights under State and Federal Law regarding the Individual with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities.

Family Engagement Plan Component: Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

Component Description: Caregivers have multiple opportunities to learn about student progress and ways to support success at home. Caregivers also have personal extended learning opportunities.

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing: Rule ISD offers:

- High-quality full day PK program to eligible learners, enhancing and extending socialization and facilitating parent involvement for Pre-K families.
- Teacher/parent conferences held throughout the school year and collaborating with them in setting goals for their children while in the PK program
- Encouraging family members to volunteer in the classroom, using the time to foster enhanced communication regarding their child's development
- Suggested extension home activities that correspond to activities done in the classroom
- Sharing technology tips/resources that are family-friendly to enhance parents' knowledge on child development (Accessible Downloadable Apps)
- PK registrations and throughout the summer and school year that include campus tours and school/program information
- District webpage that shared information supportive of enhancing and extending learning for children participating in the PK program
- District webpage includes recommended learning links
- Parents are encouraged to access class/campus/district information from the Parent Portal on the Rule ISD website
- Parents are provided with learner progress by way of regular report cards, weekly teacher communication, etc.
- BOY, MOY, and EOY benchmarking
- Rule ISD Code of Conduct

Family Engagement Plan Component: Provide ongoing professional development opportunities for educators
Component Description: Prekindergarten teaching staff participate in professional development opportunities to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies and enhance instruction.

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing:

- PK Guidelines
- Technology for young children
- Districtwide Communities of Practice
- ESC ECE training, coaching, mentoring District-wide strengths-based/culturally Responsive PD
- Campus-based Professional Development (PD) sessions on varying topics

Family Engagement Plan Component: Evaluate family engagement efforts and use results for continuous improvement

Component Description: Ongoing campus/district needs assessment cycle will seek input to improve the quality of instruction, climate, and family engagement

Activities/Event/Practice Details and Timing:

- Campus Improvement Plan cycle
- Title I Parent Survey
- District Performance Report
- Beginning-of-Year student-centered goal setting and family checkpoint conferences/ sessions

Transition Activities:

- Provide school tours/visits with local child care providers and community to encourage smooth transitions to kindergarten.
- Create a transition plan to support children and families moving from one grade to the next.

Linguistic and Culturally Inclusive Practices:

- Provide ongoing professional development to educators on culturally responsive topics with an early childhood focus
- Use culturally relevant materials in classrooms and for homework sent to families
- Use home languages for all communications sent to families
- Provide translators and interpreters during all events/activities for caregivers

Conclusion: The Rule ISD HQPK Family Engagement Plan is one of the strategies our district uses to guide collaborative success. The positive relationships between staff and families that Rule ISD promotes through the HQPK Family Engagement plan, help build a shared understanding of how we can work together to ensure every child will reach their full potential, from birth to kindergarten and beyond.