

Family Engagement Plan 23-24

Statement of Purpose

The Fort Worth Independent School District mission is to provide an equitable and supportive environment, communication and collaboration with our parents and community, and quality differentiated instruction that includes problem solving, real world connections, and social-emotional growth for all students.

Parent Involvement Engagement Plan for the Fort Worth Independent School District is used to provide the necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

I. Fort Worth ISD Will Facilitate Family-to-Family Support

A. Parent Academy

This is a catalog of parenting classes that are offered throughout the year by pyramids. The parenting classes include Why Attendance Matters, Raising Highly Capable Kids, as well as an array of topics that help bring awareness to parents on how to support their students in academics, health and mental wellness as well as how to navigate the school system, college and career options. Parents as Teachers is an international, non-profit organization that promotes optimal early development, learning and health of young children by supporting and engaging their parents and caregivers.

B. Family Engagement Specialists

The FES is an ESSER funded position hired by the campus and supported by the Parent Partnership Department. Family Engagement Specialists are offered to every Elementary and Middle School. It is an ESSER funded position. Their role is to engage and support families through daily personal calls to follow up on absent students or to message information to individual families. The calls provide opportunities to build relationships with families as well as coordinate with the Parent Partnerships Department staff to utilize an effective referral process for assisting students and families in accessing school and community support programs and services. The Family Engagement Specialist supports the campus food/ clothes pantry, attendance incentive store, PTA, SBDM, and Attendance Committee. Communicates with campus Principal, and other campus staff to exceed Title I mandates: parent policy, parent notifications, parent compacts, meetings, and events. They conduct periodic home visits with appropriate campus staff. Helps create a technology-driven culture by educating families and partners regarding District opportunities and communication tools (such as Parent Portal, District App, Campus website, email, cell/text, and so forth). Supports and promotes special activities in the building that contribute to a positive and comprehensive school experience for the family and school community.



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

II. Fort Worth ISD Will Establish a Network of Community Resources and Strategies for Parents

A. Volunteers

- The District provides volunteer opportunities for parents, community members, corporate and non-profit agencies, higher education, and faith groups. Fort Worth ISD currently has more than 8,000 approved volunteers to support efforts in and out of school. We are working back toward our pre-COVID number of more than 10,000 volunteers. www.fwisd.org/volunteer

B. Translation Services

- Fort Worth ISD is committed to providing information to families. From the District website to forms for parents, Fort Worth ISD Translation and Interpretation services makes information accessible for families regardless of language. For more information see the department website.

C. Countdown to Kindergarten

- Fort Worth ISD Early Learning Department provides parents with a publication called Countdown to Kindergarten. This District-created booklet is shared at all community attended and District events. It gives parents and caregivers important physical, social and emotional developmental milestones from birth through age 5.

D. Head Start Collaboration

- Fort Worth ISD has a long-standing collaboration with Child Care Associates' (CCA) Head Start program. This collaborative of diverse organizations working with FWISD children who are eligible for Head Start and Public Pre-K programs to offer full-day services at selected FWISD campuses and CCA childcare centers. The full day program provides instructional services, healthy family initiatives, mental health and disability services aligned with positive child outcomes and well-informed families. Head Start Pre-K PLUS integrated partnership model utilizes a certified teacher of record from both partners paired with a credentialed assistant teacher to facilitate high quality and comprehensive learning experiences for enrolled children. Together we are ensuring that students and families are ready for school and ready for life!

III. FWISD Will Provide Opportunities to Increase Family Participation in Decision-Making at Both the Campus and District Level

A. Site-Based Decision-Making Teams

- Site-based decision making is a process for decentralizing decisions to improve the educational outcomes at every school campus through a collaborative effort by which principals, teachers, campus staff, district staff,



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

parents, and community representatives assess educational outcomes of all students, determine goals and strategies, and ensure that strategies are implemented and adjusted to improve student achievement. For more information about participating at your campus, please contact the school.

B. Special Education Advisory Committee

- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is a volunteer group of parents, teachers, school administrators and others who want to improve programs and services for students with disabilities in Fort Worth. If you'd like to talk about your concerns, meet other parents of special needs children, and get involved in making things better, come see us!
- [Special Education Advisory Committee \(SEAC\) Page](#)

C. Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC)

- Each school has an LPAC committee. Each LPAC should include but not limited to a campus administrator, Bilingual/ESL Lead teacher, ARD Representative and a parent of a student who is in the bilingual or ESL program (Emergent Bilingual- EB). All members of the LPAC must be trained to perform the duties of the committee according to state guidelines. The LPAC reviews all pertinent information on each EB and monitors former EB students during the school year (initial enrollment, state assessment decision-making, end-of-school year), to ensure students are placed in the appropriate program for progress. For more information about participating at your campus, please contact the school.

D. District Advisory Committee

- The District Advisory Committee (DAC) is a group of individuals who meet four to six times per year to advise the Superintendent and the School Board on educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and major classroom instructional programs. The committee is made up of representatives from the professional staff of the district, parents of students enrolled in the district, and business and community members. The committee is advisory in nature and each year the committee evaluates the academic progress in the district and assists staff in making appropriate changes in the District Educational Improvement Plan. For more information, visit the website.

E. Fort Worth ISD Council of PTAs

- Parent Teacher Associations are well-represented across Fort Worth ISD. Each campus has its own governing body. For more information about joining the association at your campus, please contact the school.
- [FWISD Council of PTAs](#)

F. School-Parent Compacts

- Each Title I school must jointly develop with parents a school-parent



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

compact as a component of its written parental involvement policy. A school-parent compact is a written agreement between the school and the parents. At a minimum, the school-parent compact must include:

- a) The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards
- b) Ways in which parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning (e.g., monitoring attendance, homework completion, or television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom; or positive use of extracurricular time)
- c) The importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
 - Parent-teacher conferences to discuss the compact
 - Frequent reports to parents on their child's progress
 - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.

IV. Fort Worth ISD Will Equip Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning Beyond the School Day

A. Home Educational Resources

- The Ready Rosie short video program provides daily activities delivered to your mobile device (smart phone, tablet) or laptop via text, app, or email and the videos demonstrate activities families can do with their child anytime, anywhere. These fun activities can be done in the car, in a restaurant, in the laundromat or at home – all situations in which there may be free time to interact in a fun and helpful way to develop various skills! Plus, it increases the amount of quality time families spend together.

B. Parents as Teachers

- Parents as Teachers is an international, non-profit organization that promotes optimal early development, learning and health of young children by supporting and engaging their parents and caregivers. Parents as Teachers provides an evidence-based home visiting model and is a center for innovation in promising practices and flexible and adaptive designs. Through professionals in a national network of affiliates and partners, they provide parents and caregivers with research-based information and support from pregnancy through Kindergarten. For more information, visit the site.

C. Texas Home Visitation Grant

- Voluntary home visiting programs support and inform expectant parents and families of young children to improve maternal and child health, support



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

child development, and increase family economic self-sufficiency. Fort Worth ISD employs social workers who are strategically placed throughout the district to serve families and children.

D. Home Learning Activities- CLI Engage

- Throughout the school year, students in a prekindergarten classroom are given special activities to help their teacher track their progress. The teacher looks at the results of this “progress monitoring” to determine if the children are developing the skills they will need for kindergarten and their later school years. Activities for language, social and emotional skills, and mathematics are found on the website to help parents extend the school day. For more information, visit the website.

E. Empowering Families- Creative Curriculum for Texas Family APP/ Ready Rosie

- Creative Curriculum provides at home resources for families that include ReadyRosie, Marco Polo and the Family App. Support families with mobile-friendly ReadyRosie Modeled Moments videos, which are filmed in English and Spanish, aligned with Intentional Teaching Experiences and objectives for development and learning, and show real families modeling fun activities that support classroom learning in authentic ways. Marco Polo videos: - Educators can easily record and share personalized video messages and custom video playlists aligned to classroom instruction. This helps reinforce learning at home and engages families in what their child is learning at school. We provide access to Spanish-language videos for multilingual children and their families. Modified video adventures also provide access to the same engaging content and learning objectives using simplified language and a more intentional pace.

V. Fort Worth ISD Will Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting Their Children’s Learning Benchmarks

A. Ready Rosie Share

- PK teachers can access on Ready Rosie share. Teachers can send customized messages and hand-pick videos each week. They can align Ready Rosie activities to what is happening in the classroom so that families can more meaningfully partner on the education of their child.

B. Professional Learning Sessions for Cultural Responsiveness

- Professional learning sessions available from Fort Worth ISD’s Early Learning Department focus teachers’ attention on the diversity of students who attend Fort Worth ISD schools. They include strategies for involving families from international origins.

VI. Fort Worth ISD Will Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluations for



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

Continuous Improvement

A. Home Visit Data

- Fort Worth ISD monitors data from the Home Visitation Grant, Parents as Teachers, and the Head Start Collaboration.

B. Data from Ready Rosie Share Usage

- Ready Rosie provides Fort Worth ISD with regular updates on account access and usage by parents for their Ready Rosie account. This information can be used to target certain schools and classrooms for increased communication and professional learning.

C. Parent Portal

- Parent Portal is a web-based tool available to all parents with students enrolled in PK-12. With its easy to use interface, this tool will transform two-way communication. It works with the District's Student Information System (SIS) and allows parents to monitor progress in school by providing timely access to both assignments and grades that are entered by the teacher throughout the grading period. We monitor:
 - a) Parent sign ups by campus
 - b) Percentage of usage; frequency
 - c) New and pending accounts

D. District and Campus Social Media

- Social media outlets connect us to students, parents, colleagues, our community, and the world. Furthermore, social media platforms allow a dialogue to take place between you and your community. Opportunities exist to solicit feedback and engage in meaningful exchanges while building brand equity and value. Fort Worth ISD also has Facebook and Twitter accounts to offer families with as much information as possible.
 - www.facebook.com/fortworthisd
 - https://twitter.com/fortworth_isd
 - <https://www.instagram.com/fortworthisd/>

E. Fort Worth ISD Mobile App

- Apps are valuable assets to our mobile devices, allowing convenient access to sites and services. The app is available on iTunes and the Google Play store. Information and services available on the app include:
 - a) Stakeholder feedback: We welcome suggestions and ideas to better serve our audience.
 - b) Resources and support: Calendars, news, grades, transportation, lunch money, and more are available in one location.
 - c) Notifications: District and school level notifications can be viewed and received at the users' convenience.



Family Engagement Plan 23-24

F. District and Campus Websites

- Fort Worth ISD website is www.fwisd.org . From the main webpage parents can access a variety of useful information and each campus website with just a few clicks.

G. Let's Talk

Fort Worth ISD launched Let's Talk! a cloud-based customer experience solution that makes it easy for parents, community members, students, and staff to submit questions, comments, or concerns. In return, they receive a thoughtful, timely response

