

Keene Independent School District ESSA Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Statement of Purpose

The Keene Independent School District (KISD) is committed to providing quality education to every student in the district. Partnerships with parents, family members, and the community are essential to this goal as neither home nor school can achieve this goal independently. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high student achievement. Parents and family members play an important role as their children's first teachers, and their support is critical to their children's success. KISD intends to include parents and family members in all aspects of the district's Title I programs to create a school-home partnership that will promote student success. The district believes that establishing and maintaining open lines of communication will expand and enhance learning opportunities and create the best learning environment for every child.

Develop Jointly

The KISD Site-Based Decision-Making (SBDM) Committee is comprised of parents, members of the community, teachers, school principals, and district administration. This committee will annually review the ESSA Parent and Family Engagement Policy and revise it as necessary. Each Title I principal, with input from the campus SBDM committees, will make recommendations as necessary to revisions of the district policy.

Build Capacity of Schools

KISD will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other necessary support to assist and build the capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in the district in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Keene ISD, KISD Superintendent, and the KISD Federal Programs Director will provide support and training to principals, teachers, and staff to promote the parent and family engagement opportunities.

Coordinate Services

KISD will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other federal, state, and local laws and programs.

Annual Evaluation

KISD will assess the needs of the parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools including a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs. Workshops or other training will be made available to educators and parents to address these needs. Parents will be notified about training opportunities.

The District SBDM committee will review and evaluate all aspects of the parent and family engagement program. Parents will be asked for their input on the content and effectiveness of the Title I parent and family engagement programs through an annual evaluation of the Title I program. The evaluation will include an assessment of overall parent and family engagement and identify barriers to parent and family participation that still need to be overcome, needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning, and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The community will be consulted in the design, development, and implementation of the Title I program. Each year KISD will assess the needs of parents and children in the community through a variety of measures, including parental suggestions. The district and each campus will welcome and receive recommendations about the Title I program.

Design Evidence-Based Strategies

KISD through its Needs Assessment and District Improvement Plan process will use the findings of the annual evaluation to design and incorporate objectives that will lead to more effective parental involvement. The SBDM committee will annually review the District Parent and Family Engagement Policy based on the results of an annual review.

Involve Parents in Activities

Parents can become involved in their children's education through a variety of ways. KISD values both the at-home contributions of parents and those that take place at the school or in the community. Reading to children at home and talking with them at family meals or other families outings are as important as volunteering at school and serving on advisory committees. Many types of parent and family engagement are needed in school-home-community partnerships to help all children succeed. KISD will provide information in a format and language the parents understand. KISD will offer many opportunities for parent and family engagement in the school including, but not limited to the following:

- Parents may contribute through volunteer programs;
- Parents may participate by attending school meetings at a variety of times;
- Parents are invited to serve on committees;
- Parents are invited to develop trainings for educators;
- Parents are surveyed to get their input about school.

Parents will be informed of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. Websites, newsletters, teacher notes, the school marquee, conferences, personal contacts, phone calls/text messages, emails, and written notices will be used to establish and maintain open lines of communication with parents. The district will welcome and respond to efforts by parents to communicate with the school.

Keene ISD
 PK Family Engagement Plan
 2023-2024

The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement and to 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 supports the whole child and is both culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate.

19 Tex. Admin. Code § 102.1003

Keene ISD has established a Family Engagement Plan to increase the collaboration between parents, community members, teachers, and district personnel to increase the education of Prekindergarten-2nd grade students. An effective family engagement plan creates a foundation for the collaboration of parents, embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child centered, age appropriate, and family driven. There are six components that must be addressed in the Family Engagement Plan along with the strategies to implement them.

Keene ISD PK-2 Family Engagement Plan		
Component	Strategic Plan	Activities
Facilitate Family-to Family Support	Provide parents with opportunities to participate in district and campus initiatives to promote interaction between families and school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meet the Teacher ● December Math and Reading Family Night ● December Family Fun Run ● March STEAM Fair Family Night ● Monthly PTO Meetings ● Monthly Parent Newsletters ● PK-Kindergarten Round-Up in Spring ● Parent Conferences in September and March ● Parent Volunteer opportunities on campus ● Serve on campus and district committees

<p>Establish a Network of Community Resources</p>	<p>KES will build partnerships with community organizations and provide resources and services to the students and families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cleburne Public Library ● Blessing Bags through Bono Baptist and SDA Church ● JCSSA Parent Resources and Trainings ● ESL Parent Training Nights ● Shot Clinics ● Math and Reading Night ● Visits from Keene Police and Fire Departments
<p>Increase Family Participation in Decision-Making</p>	<p>Encourage family participation in decision making, realizing that contributions are crucial to a well-rounded plan that facilitates support for all stakeholders, that will positively impact student achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Campus and District Site-Based Decision Making Committees ● Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) ● Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) ● Campus level PTO Meetings
<p>Provide Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning</p>	<p>Families have opportunities to learn about student progress and other ways to support their child.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family conferences twice yearly. ● Annual parent needs Surveys ● Monthly Smore newsletters, emails ● Campus Literacy Family Night ● Take Home Readers and other Resources
<p>Provide On-going Professional Development Opportunities for Educators</p>	<p>Staff development offered to teachers to support in helping families so that their children meet their learning goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PK Guidelines ● PK training, coaching, and mentoring ● Frog Street Conference

Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluations for Continuous Improvement	Ongoing campus/district needs assessment cycle to seek input to improve the quality of instruction and family engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Surveys ● Parent Input on Site-Based meetings for campus and district, PTO meetings, and Health Committees to provide information in planning, development, and implementation of programs.
---	---	---

<p>Transition Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide school tours for families to encourage transition to Kindergarten.
<p>Linguistic and Culturally Inclusive Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Linguistic and Culturally Inclusive hiring practices within KISD ● Provide yearly Emergent Bilingual PD ● Culturally relevant classroom resources and activities ● Communications sent in Spanish and Marshallese ● Use of translators as needed for events and activities.
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>The Keene ISD PK Family Engagement Plan is one strategy we use to guide our continued success and improvement. All of these ideas help us to build positive communications and relationships between families and school to ensure every student is supported.</p>
<p>HQPK Family Engagement Plan URL for ECDS Submission:</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CTrtYg3rnwBQeERTx05U5EEIjzae-cO7Z9lLr7Httu0/edit</p>