

Godley ISD High Quality Pre-K Family Engagement Policy

Overview:

Family engagement is “the mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to 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 experience, supports the whole child, and is culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate”. TAC 102.1003 This partnership is essential for the success of all students. The goal is to achieve and maintain high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education.

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) is a critical requirement of the Title I, Part A program. LEAs fulfill the PFE requirement by conducting outreach to all parents and family members and by implementing programs, activities, and procedures for the meaningful involvement of parents and family members in Title I, Part A programs. Parents of participating children should play an important role in the planning of such programs, activities and procedures and the LEA

Facilitate Family-to-Family Support:

Godley ISD elementary campuses will facilitate family-to-family support using strategies provided in the Frog Street curriculum. Parents and caregivers receive Parent Square notifications in English and Spanish to assist them in understanding activities that can be done at home and in the community to practice and deepen skills and concepts taught at school as part of the curriculum.

Strategies include:

- Kindergarten Parent Nights & Round-Up
- Pre-kindergarten Parent Nights
- “Meet the Teacher” night, facilitating family-to-family interactions, networking, and community/school support
- Campus Family Nights
- Opportunity to participate on the Campus and District Improvement Plan Committee
- Classroom volunteering
- Parent/family training that encourages families to share experiences, community resources, and individual
- FACE events: Summerpalooza and Back to School Fair

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Network of Community Resources

CGSD will work to establish a broader network of community resources. We have a very active partnership with community and faith-based organizations to enhance the resources available that will directly benefit prekindergarten families as needed:

Some of these organizations are:

- Cooks Children's Health Services
- Local family support services/food pantry
- Godley Ministerial Alliance
- YMCA
- Storybook Christmas- donations of books for all Pre-K students

Increase Family Participation in Decision Making

GISD will work to increase family participation in decision-making through a variety of ways:

- Opportunity to participate on the Campus and District Improvement Plan Committee
- Invite family feedback
- District family engagement survey
- Family visitation and volunteering
- Create and maintain an environment that values and affirms parent leadership.
- Regularly held parent/teacher conferences

Equip facilities with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning to Increase Student Achievement

We will equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning from the classroom to the home.

Examples of how GISD equips families with tools to enhance and extend learning include:

- a high-quality full-day PK program for eligible learners,
- enhancing and extending socialization
- facilitating parent involvement for Pre-K families
- teacher/parent conferences are held throughout the school year
- Goal setting with parents for their children while in the PK program
- encouraging family members to volunteer in the classroom, using the time to foster enhanced
- two-way communication in parents' native language through Parent Square
- sharing technology tips/resources that are family-friendly to enhance parents' knowledge of child development

Provide Professional Development Opportunities for Educators that Support Families in Meeting Their Children’s Learning

The Prekindergarten staff will develop skills in evidence-based practices by utilizing campus training and district-level professional development opportunities. We strive to provide training on communicating with families in crisis situations, culturally diverse, relevant, and responsive family engagement strategies, and use evaluations for continuous improvement.

Gisd is committed to ensuring all teachers will:

- complete at least 30 hours of training in the areas addressed in the PreKindergarten guidelines achieved through training opportunities from Region 11, Early Childhood Annual Conferences and ongoing PD offerings
- participate in professional development focused on understanding communication and engagement with families; including training on communicating with families in crisis
- promote family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning
- have access to and training on how to utilize resources that are available in the community that support families’ interests and needs.

Evaluation

Godley ISD will evaluate its family engagement process and efforts through our annual district survey. All family engagement activities including training sessions, workshops, meetings, and campus events are followed with an evaluation giving families the opportunities to express their views for continuous improvement. Campus and district will encourage families to participate in the district-wide survey, as well as campus surveys. We will use the information to:

- Provide valuable information in planning, developing, and implementing prekindergarten activities for the district.
- Revise/review prekindergarten curriculum and compacts annually

Point of Contact

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