



Northwest ISD Family Services District Effectiveness Report

October 20, 2025

Cynthia Elliott, Family Parenting and Pregnancy Outreach Coordinator



NFS Mission

Northwest Family Services in partnership with parents, caregivers and community partners will promote the well-being of families and support positive outcomes for children.

NFS Vision

NFS empowers parents and caregivers to be their child's first teacher.



Our Core Beliefs

NISD Core Beliefs

1. Kids come first.
2. Continuous learning is essential to college and career opportunities.
3. Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities.
4. Learning is influenced by environment.

NFS Alignment

1. We serve kids from the “start”, 0-5 yrs.
2. We support learning from the beginning, encouraging healthy pregnancies, infant and toddler brain development, and parenting behaviors that support learning.
3. We facilitate a community of learning, partnerships between family, school and community partners.
4. We teach parents that every environment is a learning environment and how to continuously use the environment they are in to teach their child.



Brief History

2004	2010	2018	2021	2022	2023	2024
NISD granted Early Childhood grant and becomes a Parents as Teachers Affiliate	4 staff 100 families Served	160 families served Served 5 staff-opened all PAT services to any family in the district	271 families served, 368 children	Two state grants awarded with annual total of \$437,411 resulting in doubling our capacity to serve families! Over 550 families served.	Increase in grant funding to \$643,0958 annually, 611 families served	858 families served!



Northwest Family Services Program

Strategic Goal 1

Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experiences and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student.

Parents as Teachers- Home visiting, Group Connections, Developmental Screenings, Resource Connection

Family Navigation- Developmental Screenings, personalized navigation to connect with resources and achieve parents goals to increase child and family wellbeing

Parent Café'

24:7 Dads

Caregiver Education and Support

Parent-Child Interaction events

Parent Leadership Program

NISD Pregnancy Education and Parenting Program



NISD Strategic Goal 1 – Learning Experiences

NISD PRIORITIES:

Literacy

1.1 Our students will annually increase literacy proficiency to reach or exceed grade-level standards.

Academic Progress

1.2 Our students will achieve individualized academic goals to reach a year's growth or more in all content areas.

College, Career, Military & Life Readiness

1.3 Our students will graduate life ready and prepared for success in career, college, or military service.



START STRONG

Foundations & Resiliency in Infants & Toddlers (Ages 0-3)
A Conscious Discipline® E-Learning Course

Build a Strong Foundation for Your Child's Future!

Gain the skills to support your infant or toddler's brain development, resilience & emotional well-being in this FREE E-Learning Course.

LEARN AT YOUR OWN PACE
with video-based training led by *Sandy K. Gutzen, Ph.D.*
award-winning author, licensed teacher and internationally recognized expert in childhood education and developmental psychology

FAMILY SERVICES

IMPORTANT DATES:
Complete all Modules by January 19th
"Little Stars, Big Wins Luncheon" for Participants who complete all modules (January, exact date TBD)

What's Included:

- Engaging Video Modules
- Hands-On Activities to apply what you learn
- Digital Handouts & Resources
- Suggested Readings for deeper learning
- FREE with Access Code (a \$700 value!)

SPOTS ARE LIMITED SIGN UP HERE!

Parent Cafe

A safe space to connect with other caregivers, participate in group and personal small group conversations, self-reflection and gain to your learning around shared topics.

Each month the theme will be the same. Sign up for next on all.

9:45am - 12:00pm

Please arrive by 9:45 for childcare check-in, cafe starts at 10.

Tuesday Sept 30 - Theme: It takes a village
Wednesday Oct 8, Thursday Oct 16 & Tuesday Oct 28
Theme: New & Old
Theme: Dec 4 and Tues Dec 16

Childcare provided. Children will eat lunch.

1809 Hwy 114 Austin, TX
Enter Door # 4
Questions: brandi@optimality.org



Strategic Goal 2

Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.

NISD PRIORITIES:

Recruit

2.1 Northwest ISD will have an unwavering commitment to attract and welcome high-quality staff.

Value

2.2 Northwest ISD will invest in all staff through a culture of support, development, and empowerment to make a positive impact on the learning community.

Retain

2.3 Northwest ISD will retain highly effective staff through meaningful relationships, ongoing support, and professional growth opportunities.

NISD Strategic Goal 2 - Staff



Strategic Goal 3

Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.

NISD PRIORITIES:

Engagement

3.1 Northwest ISD will foster an environment of engagement with every member of our community through collaborative dialogue and partnership opportunities.

Culture

3.2 Northwest ISD will model and instill a culture of belonging where all students, staff, families, and community voices are heard and valued.

Safety

3.3 Northwest ISD will continuously improve, maintain and communicate systems of support to strengthen the physical and emotional well-being of our students, staff, and community.

Culture of engagement

- Supporting PreK families through teacher referrals and outreach
- Community Outreach
- Early childhood systems development through active participation in local coalitions and strengthened partnerships with early childhood organizations.

Building a culture of positive home and school collaboration

Building child and family wellbeing



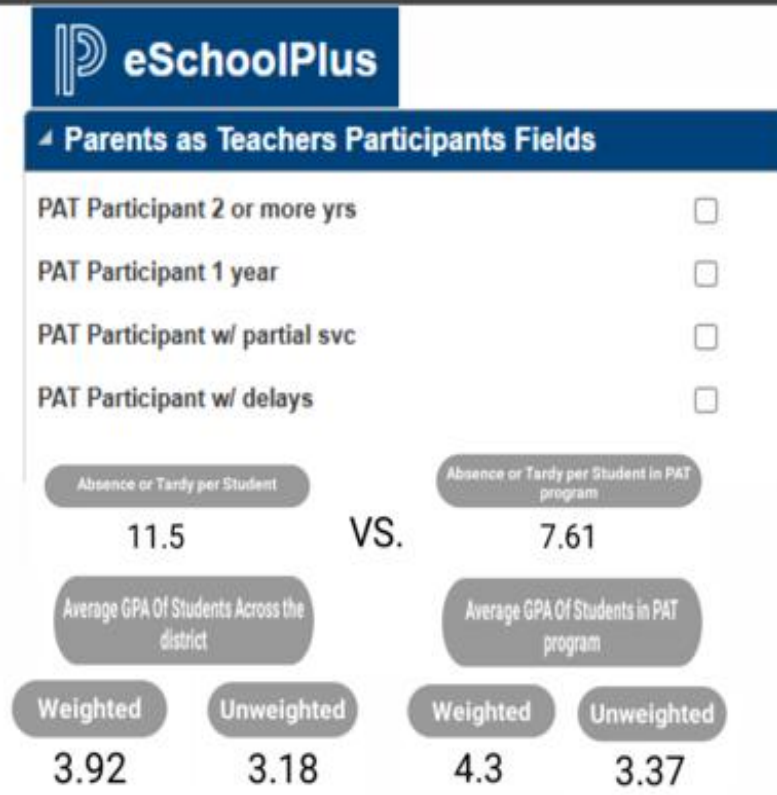
Impact

- Enhanced family and child well-being
- Improved child safety
- Strengthened positive parenting behaviors
- Increased social support for families
- Improved child health outcomes
- Enhanced parental mental health
- Strengthened protective factors
- Increased early pre-literacy skills
- Enhanced social skills in children
- Improved school readiness
- More positive attitudes toward school
- Higher school attendance rates for school-aged children
- Greater awareness of community resources and self-sufficiency
- Increased parental advocacy
- Increased long term father involvement in child's education
- Improved alignment of community resources



Long Term Impact for NISD

PAT indicators have been added to eSchool to track long-term student outcomes. Students who participated in the PAT program have **35% fewer absences** and **higher GPAs** than the average student.



Future Expansion

Goals-

- Family Navigators on campus serving families with school age children
- Expanding father engagement through Fatherhood Effect Grant



Thank you for your support!

“When we support families, we set children on the path to lifelong learning and success.”



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Questions?