

Humble ISD Family Engagement Plan Pre-Kindergarten
2016-2017 School Year

Humble Independent School District (HISD) and the Early Childhood Department believe that all parents, teachers, and community members are a valuable link in the educational success of all students. We promote the involvement of these key stakeholders by having them take part in the process that allows them to contribute to our school community providing input regarding the services offered in an effort to maximize the quality of education for Pre- Kindergarten students in HISD. We have developed a Family Engagement Plan to increase the collaboration between all stakeholders. The active participation of parents, teachers, and community members in all aspects of students' education is a valuable tool that HISD welcomes and respects.

Components

A. Facilitate family-to-family support

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Department will create safe and respectable environments where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups, invite participants to share their education and experiences, and ensure opportunities for continuous participation in events designed for families.

Strategies include:

Availability of district-wide, free, daily opportunities to attend the SPARK Program. Parents/guardians and their child attend these interactive sessions, specifically designed to be developmentally appropriate for preschool students. Activities are planned and facilitated by certified teachers and include story time, field trips, arts and crafts, play dates at local parks and cooking sessions. Parents are encouraged to share with other parents and make connections for continued relationships beyond school programs.

The district will offer Parenting Education Classes at Pre-Kindergarten campuses. These sessions will be facilitated by Early Childhood Specialists and parents will be encouraged to share ideas, suggestions, and effective practices.

A variety of Campus Family Literacy, Math and Science Nights will be held throughout the year. The Early Childhood Department will collaborate with campuses to provide specific opportunities for parents of preschool students to engage in developmentally appropriate activities and learn and share from one another.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities are offered at campuses to provide parents an opportunity to meet other parents and share experiences.

The Early Childhood Department will provide information to teachers about existing parent-to-parent organizations and family peer networks within the area.

B. Establish a network of community resources

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Program will build partnerships with community agencies and faith-based organizations, utilize community resources, and identify support from various agencies that provide services to the students in an effort to equip parents and caregivers with skills needed to have a healthy and productive family.

Strategies include:

The Early Childhood Department will collaborate with the Department of Counseling and Behavioral Services to develop list of family resources.

The Early Childhood Department will post the list on website main page and provide the list to all early childhood teachers along with teacher training on parent engagement.

The Early Childhood Department will create a parent resource section of Early Childhood Website with links to online learning opportunities.

Community members, private child care providers and faith-based organization center directors will be invited to meet with the Early Childhood Committee to discuss partnerships and mutual needs.

C. Increase family participation in decision making

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Program encourages family participation in decision making by collaborating with families to develop strategies to solve problems. Families will be provided opportunities to shape program activities and cultivate a flow of two-way communication.

Strategies include:

Parents and community members will be invited to participate in the District Early Childhood Committee. Through this committee, parents will be encouraged to review and provide input on program practices, communications, and events to ensure the program is responsive to the needs of families.

The Early Childhood Committee, along with parental participants, will review the Parent Engagement Plan to gather feedback and make recommendations.

The Early Childhood Department will provide opportunities for parent feedback and collaboration during campus parent training sessions.

Invite family feedback (evaluations) and suggestions with regard to activities being provided.

D. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Program will equip families with learning opportunities to enhance and extend learning and provide families with information and training to create a home learning environment with positive family experiences and practices.

Strategies include:

All parents and caregivers within the district will be provided with access to the Ready Rosie resource. Teachers will be provided training from Ready Rosie staff on effectively utilizing the program. Incentives will be offered to teachers with high levels of participation and usage among families.

Availability of district-wide, free, daily opportunities to attend the SPARK Program. Parents/guardians and their child attend these interactive sessions, specifically designed to be developmentally appropriate for preschool students. Activities are planned and facilitated by certified teachers who model strategies for high levels of positive interactions with young children.

The Early Childhood Department will collaborate with campus staff for Literacy, Math and Science Events to develop specific opportunities for preschool families.

The Early Childhood Department will provide preschool specific Parenting Education Classes on Behavior Management Strategies and Developing Literacy and Math Skills Through Play at Pre-Kindergarten campuses.

Early Childhood staff will offer individual Parent Conferences with families at least once a year.

E. Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks.

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Department will provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families.

Strategies include:

The Early Childhood Team will provide ongoing professional development for all early childhood staff in the area of cultural responsiveness and how to connect and engage with families.

Ready Rosie staff will be invited to provide professional development with early childhood staff on the impact of parent engagement and effective practices.

The Early Childhood Team will model and collaborate with early childhood staff in providing parent learning opportunities.

F. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

The Humble ISD Early Childhood Department will monitor family engagement efforts and use data to ensure alignment between activities and goals to ensure continuous improvement and adjustment.

Participation data will be collected at family engagement events, such as SPARK and Parent Trainings.

Ready Rosie usage will tracked and monitored by the Early Childhood Department.

Teacher feedback will be solicited regarding family engagement initiatives.

The Early Childhood Department and Early Childhood Committee will review data and usage information to promote continuous improvement in family engagement activities.