

MFISD Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan

As we are keenly aware of the impact family engagement can have on the success of a child in school and in life, Marble Falls ISD has a strong desire to partner with families to build solid relationships which will support student learning and the development of the whole child. In an effort to achieve and maintain high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education, our family engagement plan includes the following strategies:

Facilitate family-to-family support, increase family participation in decision-making, and equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

- Create a positive, welcoming environment where parents can learn from each other and the school
- Establish open lines of communication, provide information flyers in English/Spanish, provide translators when/where necessary, provide class newsletters with information and helpful tips on parents becoming partners
- Host parent events – transition activities to help with resources and skills to support their child transitioning into school, teach them how to access attendance and grades, district wide event with learning stations over each of the ten domains in the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015)
- Conduct parent conferences at the end of nine week grading periods to educate parents on their child's progress, encourage their participation in the decision-making process and support the development of parents as leaders and their child's advocate
- Promote a culture of learning – provide learning activities and educational resources for families to engage in at home to support learning while strengthening the family/school partnership, promote the value of education as a pathway to success, work together to help children overcome behavioral challenges
- Assist parents in establishing their CLI Engage account in order to access the resources available to them: ability to view their child's progress monitoring reports, videos of parents conducting activities with their child as models for parents wanting to support their child's learning at home, interactive tutorials for parents on child development, and a developmental milestone checklist which helps parents measure their child's intellectual, physical and emotional growth and development

Establish a network of community resources

- Create and share a list of community resources including parental support, educational, mental/physical health and other agencies
- Develop cross-cultural networks and coordinate efforts across communities
- Build strategic partnerships with faith-based and other community organizations

Provide ongoing professional development for staff to support families in meeting the needs of their child

- Include training topics on diversity, varying needs of families, communication, parents as partners, and being culturally responsive in the professional development teachers will receive to engage families in building strong relationships
- Instill the belief that family engagement is a core strategy to improve teaching and learning

Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

- Invite family feedback on activities and events through surveys and interviews
- Use evaluation data to inform, guide and make adjustments in our continuous improvement efforts