

Holland ISD's High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan

Introduction

"The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement, 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 is both culturally and linguistically appropriate." Texas Administrative Code §102.1003.

Holland ISD, in accordance with the House Bill 3 High-Quality Prekindergarten guidelines, created a High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan to promote partnership between our school, families, and community to ensure successful outcomes for our youngest learners in our prekindergarten program. Collaboratively, we all share the responsibility to encourage and support initiatives, activities, and practices that enhance the success of student learning and achievement.

Family Engagement Plan Development Committee Members:
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Component 1: Facilitate Family-to-Family Support

Inclusive, transparent communications allow school personnel to create a safe and respectful environment to promote supportive interaction between households.

Holland ISD will:

- Invite parents to attend our Meet the Teacher night
- Invite families to attend our Family Night
- Invite families to attend our Fall Carnival
- Invite families to attend our community Thanksgiving meal
- Invite families to attend our Christmas program
- Invite families to attend our end-of-the-year awards program
- Invite parents to attend field trips
- Invite parents to contribute to class parties
- Invite families to attend field day
- Encourage parents to participate in our Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Encourage parents to interact on Class DoJo

Component 2: Establish a Network of Community Resources

Holland ISD will build strategic partnerships with community organizations to leverage community resources for caregivers through the community resources handbook, and ongoing district-wide events.

Holland ISD will:

- Partner with Baylor Scott & White to provide a community health-based clinic on our campus
- Partner with a local church to provide backpacks of food for families in need

- Partner with a local charity to provide tennis shoes for those in need
- Partner with a local church to provide Thanksgiving meals and Christmas gifts to those in need
- Partner with Impact Counseling Services to provide free counseling services
- Provide an after-school program for students of working families

Component 3: Increase Family Participation in Decision-Making

Throughout the year, participation in district and school-wide decision-making empowers caregivers as their child's first teacher and advocate.

Holland ISD will:

- Provide opportunities for parents to participate on the District Site-Based Committee
- Provide opportunities for parents to be involved on the Safety Committee
- Ensure parents participate on the Campus Improvement Plan Committee
- Develop jointly with parents the district Parent and Family Engagement Policy, campus Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School-Parent Compact
- Ensure parents participate on the School Health Advisory Council
- Encourage parents to participate in the PTO

Component 4: Equip Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning

Caregivers have multiple opportunities to learn about student progress and ways to support success at home. Caregivers also have personal extended learning opportunities.

Holland ISD will:

- Utilize Ready Rosie to provide early childhood learning opportunities for families
- Offer full-day prekindergarten
- Encourage parents to participate in Pre-K Round Up activities
- Utilize CLI Engage to provide early childhood learning opportunities for families
- Provide monthly calendars that outline what is being taught that month so parents can supplement their child's learning
- Provide parents websites and tools they can use with their children to enhance their learning
- Encourage parents to attend parent/teacher conferences
- Provide a fall newsletter that discusses the importance of teaching your child how to blow their nose, cover their cough, zip up their jackets, etc.

Component 5: Develop Soft Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting their Children's Learning Benchmarks

Prekindergarten teaching staff participate in professional development opportunities to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies and enhance instruction.

Holland ISD will:

- Provide professional development to all teachers on communicating with families in crisis
- The Educator Summit professional development
- CLI trainings
- Aide training with Region 12

Component 6: Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluation for Continuous Improvement

Ongoing campus/district needs assessment cycle will seek input to improve the quality of instruction, climate, and family engagement evaluation results are used for continuous improvement and adjustment; ensure teachers play a role in the family engagement evaluation process.

Holland ISD will:

- Conduct an annual evaluation and review the content and effectiveness of the Title I, Part A program and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- Ensure each campus completes the Comprehensive Needs Assessment to determine their individual needs
- Utilize participation data collected from Ready Rosie
- Keep record of family participation and attendance in school events
- Gather feedback from family members utilizing annual surveys

Transition Activities:

- Engage with local child care providers to share and align best practices for family engagement, setting and communicating learning goals, and student progress monitoring
- Provide school tours/visits with local child care providers and community to encourage smooth transitions
- Provide an information sheet to all parents at PK Round-up on how to best prepare their child for prekindergarten
- Prekindergarten and Kindergarten teachers meet at the end of each school year to go over data of students leaving prekindergarten and transitioning to kindergarten
- Introduce prekindergarten students to kindergarten classrooms and teachers at the end of the school year

Linguistic & Culturally Inclusive Practices:

- Ensure Human Resources Department routinely implements linguistically and culturally inclusive hiring practices
- Attend a professional development for educators on culturally responsive topics with an early childhood focus
- Use culturally relevant materials in classrooms
- Attend a professional development with Region 12 on working with EB students with little to no English
- Use home languages for all communications sent to families
- Provide translators and interpreters during all events/activities for caregivers

Conclusion:

The Holland ISD HQPK Family Engagement Plan is one of the strategies our district uses to guide collaborative success. The positive relationships between staff and families that Holland ISD promotes through the HQPK Family Engagement plan help build a shared understanding of how we can work together to ensure every child will reach their full potential, from birth to kindergarten and beyond.