



Cushing ISD's Pre-Kindergarten Family Engagement Plan

The Cushing ISD Prekindergarten program embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child centered and age appropriate. Building a partnership between educators and families through our Family Engagement Plan ensures that every learner is encouraged, supported, and challenged to achieve the highest levels of knowledge, skills, and character.

The Cushing ISD Family Engagement Plan expresses what is contained in the Commissioner's Rule (102.1003(f)) in addition to specific examples of how each of the family engagement strategies will be accomplished in our high quality prekindergarten program. The following articulates strategies within each of the six domains.

Six Components:

1. Facilitate Family-to-Family Support-
 - a. Creates a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups.
 - b. Invite and encourage parents to participate in such things as: Pre-K specific family engagement activities, volunteering, classroom parties, reward days, field trips, theme week activities, PTO meetings and sponsored events, and parent conferences.
 - c. Hold events such as: Meet the Teacher, Report Card Pickup, and Book Fair where students and parents can explore their classroom and learning environment.
 - d. Reach out to families eligible for Pre-K and provide a welcome packet with information on expectations, procedures, and school preparation.
 - e. Establish regular and meaningful communication between school and home (daily folder home with expectations, student work and weekly newsletters of what students are learning)

2. Establish a Network of Community Resources
 - a. Provide families with community resources such as: the food pantry, counseling, library activities and programs, immunizations, Child Find
 - b. Partnership with the local Lions Club to provide vision checks for PK learners and other vision resources as needed.
 - c. During the summer provide access to parents, children, and the community to summer feed programs.
 - d. Holiday gift assistance through Angel Tree Program.

- e. Backpack/School Supply/Shoes back to school assistance for learners in need.
 - f. Translation services for families at meeting, newsletters, etc.
 - g. Family safety information and tips provided by Cushing ISD Police Chief.
 - h. Campus Counselor assistance for short term family guidance and needs.
 - i. Local Volunteer Fire Department visits and speakers that share resources promoting fire safety.
3. Increase Family Participation in Decision-Making
- a. Develop, adopt, and implement goals within the annual campus improvement plan targeting family engagement.
 - b. Opportunities for families to provide input on programs, policies, communication and events through daily communication forms, and during parent/teacher conferences.
 - c. LPAC parent representation.
 - d. Provide for parent representation on Campus level and district level committees.
 - e. Educate families regarding their right under State and Federal law regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - f. Use parents as equal partners in reviewing family engagement results and making decisions regarding plans for continuous improvement.
 - g. Progress monitoring/Report Card information is shared with parents encouraging their feedback, questions, and ideas for regarding future learning experiences.
4. Equipping Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning
- a. Offer a high-quality full day Pre-K program to all learners, enhancing and extending socialization and facilitating parent involvement for Pre-K families.
 - b. Teacher/parent conferences held throughout the school year and collaborating with them in setting goals for their children while in the Pre-K program.
 - c. <https://www.texaschoolready.org/parents>, Parent Literacy Handbook in English and Spanish
 - d. Weekly newsletters of what students will be learning.
5. Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting their Children's Learning Benchmarks
- a. Continuous professional development achieved through training opportunities from Region 7
 - b. Continuing membership in Region 7 Early Childhood Coop as a means of professional learning, program effectiveness, and practices associated with high quality pre-k.
 - c. Cushing ISD's locally provided professional development.
 - d. Promoting and developing family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.

6. Evaluating Family Engagement Efforts and Using Evaluation for Continuous Improvement
 - a. Promote Pre-K parents and teachers feedback through communication logs, phone calls, and conferences.
 - b. Student progress monitoring data at beginning of year (BOY), middle of the year (MOY) and end of year (EOY).
 - c. Teacher reflection on curriculum, strategies, and practices.
 - d. Survey parents at least annually on the effectiveness of the prekindergarten experience for their child and their family.
 - e. Utilize the High Quality Checklist for Family Engagement Plan
 - f. Complete High Quality Self-Assessment instrument created by TEA to include results indicating strengths, opportunities to grow, and next steps for continuous improvements.
 - g. Conduct an annual end of year program evaluation and review of the results will support improvement efforts for the new school year.