

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.

Gonzales Primary Academy, by 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 prekindergarten programs. Collaboratively, we are all responsible for encouraging and supporting initiatives, activities, and practices that enhance student learning and achievement success.

Family Engagement Plan Development Committee Members:

Dr. Hernandez-Principal
Sandra Brown-AP/Counselor
Anahi Ortiz-Bilingual Teacher
Adriana Tellez-Bilingual Teacher
Shelby Stone-ESL Teacher
Jessica Boulter-ESL Teacher
Jamie Mastronardi-PK Teacher
Becky Egger-ESL/ESCE Teacher

Contact Person for Families:

Dr. Hernandez

Family Engagement Plan

Family Engagement Plan Component	Component Description	Activity/Event/Practice Details and Timing
1. Facilitate Family-to-Family Support	Inclusive, transparent communications allow school personnel to create a safe and respectful environment that promotes supportive household interaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly PK Parent Meetings • Monthly Caregiver newsletters • Annual Caregiver Skills/Needs Survey • PK/K Student Learning Showcase: Veterans Day Program, Christmas Program, PK Graduation program • PK Meet the Teacher • Weekly Apache Way Winners • Fall Festival • Weekly Facebook posts • Boo Yahoo Breakfast • Grandparents Day Breakfast • Rocky Creek Maze Corn Field Trip • McKenna Children's Museum Field Trip • Christmas Parties • Valentine Dance • Black History Program

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike Rodeo • Egg Hunt
2. Establish a network of community resources.	Gonzales Primary Academy will build strategic partnerships with community organizations to leverage community resources for caregivers through the community resources handbook and ongoing district-wide events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTO Meetings • Parent Academy Nights • Math Night event at HEB • Literacy Night at Robert Lee. Brothers, Jr. Memorial Library • Read Across America Reading Volunteers • Monthly visit to the Robert Lee. Brothers, Jr. Memorial Library • Monthly visits from the Anchor and Pilot Club • Visit to the Palmetto State Park • Nursing Home Visit in December • Wild Spirit Ranch animal encounter for Egg Hunt • Monthly visits from Kona Ice • Food Bank of Golden Crescent • Bluebonnet Trails Community • Gonzales Fire Department • Gonzales Police Department • HEB
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus Improvement Plan Committee • Strategic Planning Community Planning • LPAC Committee Parent Group • Coffee with the Principal • Parent Conferences in the Fall and Spring
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family conferences required twice each year: Fall and Spring • Parent Academy Nights • Annual Caregiver Skills/Needs survey • Monthly Caregiver newsletter • Website • PK Handbook • Unit Home Connection Consumables • Parent Volunteer opportunities • Open House for Incoming PK students
5. Provide ongoing professional development opportunities for educators.	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region 13 Early Childhood Conference • School visit to George W. Carver Early Education Center • Imagine Español Update • District Phonic Training • Broken Crayon Training • How to co-regulate with students • District Behavior Specialist training
6. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use results for continuous improvement.	Ongoing campus/district needs assessment cycle will seek input to improve the quality of instruction, climate, and family engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus Improvement Plan cycle • Campus Climate Survey • Strategic Planning Community Planning • Beginning-of-year student-centered goal setting

Transition Activities:

- Engage with local childcare providers monthly to share and align best practices for family engagement, setting and communicating learning goals, and student progress monitoring
- Provide school tours/visits with local childcare providers and the community to encourage smooth transitions into PK
- Create a transition plan to support children moving from one grade to the next

Linguistic & Culturally Inclusive Practices:

- Ensure Human Resources Dept. routinely implements linguistically and culturally inclusive hiring practices
- Use culturally relevant materials in classrooms and for homework sent to families
- Use home languages for all communications sent to families
- Provide translators and interpreters during all events/activities for caregivers
- All materials sent home or posted on social media and ClassDojo are in English/Spanish

Conclusion:

The Gonzales Primary Academy Family Engagement Plan is our district's essential strategy to foster collaborative success. The strong relationships Gonzales Primary Academy encourages between staff and families through the GPA Family Engagement Plan help establish a shared understanding of how we can work together to ensure that every child reaches their full potential, from birth through kindergarten and beyond.

Gonzales Primary Academy Family Engagement Plan URL for ECDS submission:

<https://www.gonzalesisd.net/Page/19>