

2016-2017



Commerce ISD Strategic Family Engagement Plan for Pre-Kindergarten Families



STRATEGIC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Family engagement is the mutual responsibility of families, schools, and the community to build relationships that support student learning and achievement. Family engagement supports 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 supports the whole child and is both culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate.

The “Family” is defined as the adults responsible for the child’s care, and the children in the child’s life, who support the early learning development of the child

<i>FAMILY ENGAGEMENT GOAL</i>	<i>STRATEGIES</i>
<i>(1) Facilitate family-to-family support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social events for families to connect with one another (Back to School Ball, Family Nights, International Night, Family Picnics) • 2017-2018 Watch D.O.G.S. program • Love & Logic Parenting Classes • 2017-2018 <i>Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World</i> Program offered for parents
<i>(2) Establish network of community resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Service Worker attends Hunt County Interagency Network Meetings in order to maintain connection with local service providing agencies; and to ensure information about receiving services is current and available to families • Throughout the year, Family Service Worker visits with local clubs, businesses, and organizations (Lion’s Club; Rotary; retailers, restaurants, Commerce Leadership Institute; Churches/Faith Based Organizations; etc.) to share information regarding needs and support opportunities for CISD families. • TAMUC Mentoring Program • Food4Kids weekend snack backpack program through North TX Food Bank
<i>(3) Increase family participation in decision making</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster comfortable open dialog between families and school by utilizing all available resources and means of communication: daily communication journals; SchoolMessenger; Class Dojo; social media; home visits; parent-teacher conferences; phone calls; email • Weekly PLC form offers opportunity for parents to suggest activities/ ideas; and volunteer in classrooms • 2017-2018 Watch D.O.G.S. program will offer fathers opportunity to become involved first hand in planning/oversight/security for school activities (both daily routine and special events)

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<p><i>(4) Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family nights offer ideas to enhance learning at home with no-cost or inexpensive/easy to find materials; teach families simple-to-replicate games/experiments/activities that can be done at home • At parent conferences and home visits teachers share ideas for supporting learning at home, provide any necessary materials (flash cards, crayons/pencils, counters, etc.)
<p><i>(5) Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children’s learning benchmarks</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBRI training for teachers • 2017-2018 Family Service worker <i>Framework for Understanding Poverty</i> trainer training; <i>Framework for Understanding Poverty</i> training for teachers and staff • Home visits • Parent teacher conferences
<p><i>(6) Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Strengths and Needs Assessment included in Pre-Kindergarten registration packet • Make end-of-year survey available in multiple forms (online and hard-copy/paper) to collect reliable feedback from all families, regardless of access to wifi/devices • Keep record of family participation/attendance in school events • Log communications with families