

Lamar CISD facilitates family engagement in its Pre-K program through six strategic components. The Family Engagement Plan shall:

1. Facilitate family-to-family support:

Lamar CISD creates a safe and respectful environment where families can learn as individuals in groups. We also ensure opportunities for continuous participation in family events, such as training on family leadership. The following are examples of how LCISD creates this environment:

- ◆ Invite families to Family Engagement Nights that are designed to encourage learning through play-based activities; six events are offered throughout the district
- ◆ Provide resources and training that are aligned with implementing effective Texas Child Find practices
- ◆ Host teacher-student "meet and greets" at the beginning of the school year
- ◆ Post a visual of the LCISD Promise to Parents model on campuses

2. Establish a network of community resources:

Lamar CISD is continuously building strategic partnerships with various agencies to support our families and students. The following are examples of these partnerships:

- ◆ Collaborate with a variety of community partners to present and volunteer at Family Engagement Nights
- ◆ Invite community organizations to Family Engagement Nights to share information regarding services provided
- ◆ Translate information regarding Pre-K events and resources provided for families that speak Spanish
- ◆ Encourage staff to participate in Family Engagement Nights that enhance the program's ability to meet family needs

3. **Increase family participation in decision making:**

Lamar CISD collaborates with families to develop strategies to solve problems and serve as problem solvers. Families can participate and provide solutions through the following:

- ◆ Provide opportunities for families to give feedback regarding Family Engagement Nights
- ◆ Serve on Campus Site Based Committees
- ◆ Utilize the Canvas parent portal
- ◆ Provide district and campus climate surveys
- ◆ Join campus Parent Teacher Association (PTO)

4. **Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning:**

Lamar CISD provides families with home educational resources to support learning at home while strengthening the family/school partnership. The following are methods for providing these resources:

- ◆ Invite families to Family Engagement Nights that are designed to encourage learning through play-based activities; six events are offered throughout the district
- ◆ Provide families with information, best practices, and training related to age-appropriate developmental expectations during Family Engagement Nights
- ◆ Share information on the child's progress during Parent Teacher Conferences along with recommended CLI Engage Circle activities
- ◆ Direct parents to explore the district Pre-K resource page found on lcisd.org which includes the Pre-K curriculum At-A Glance, academic resources, parent literacy information, social and emotional development resources, educational websites, and access to the CIRCLE Family Activity Collection
- ◆ Distribute a weekly classroom newsletter so families are informed of what students are doing

5. **Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks:**

Lamar CISD provides professional learning opportunities for Pre-K teachers, paraprofessionals, and other campus and district staff that focus on supporting the whole child and family. The following are examples of these professional learning opportunities:

- ◆ Provide educators with strategies to promote family engagement as a tool to enhance student learning using state adopted curriculum resources
- ◆ Develop staff skills to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies during monthly district professional development opportunities
- ◆ Provide Pre-K teachers with strategies on how to support their families through instructional coaching sessions upon request
- ◆ Use the CIRCLE assessment as a progress monitoring tool and share that data with each student's family
- ◆ Hire staff that represents the diversity of the surrounding community

6. **Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement:**

Lamar CISD gathers feedback from families and uses evaluations such as:

- ◆ Conduct Family Engagement Night surveys
- ◆ Promote the completion of Campus Surveys
- ◆ Contribute information and strategies for the District Improvement Plan
- ◆ Utilize the TEA Parent Engagement Self-Evaluation to evaluate the Pre-K program