

LEGGETT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2023

Welcoming All Families ~ Supporting Student Success

Table of Contents

Overview	2
Family Engagement Strategies	3
1. Facilitate family-to-family support	3
2. Establish a network of family resources.....	4
3. Increase family participation in decision making.....	4
4. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning.....	5
5. Provide professional development opportunities for educators on culturally responsive, evidence-based strategies that support the education of the child	8
6. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluation for continuous improvement	9
Information/Resources	11
Family Engagement Contacts	11
TEA Family Engagement Contacts	11

LEGGETT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN
2022-2023
OVERVIEW

Family engagement is defined as the mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement and to support family wellbeing 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. TAC §102.1003 It has long been recognized by both researchers and practitioners that family engagement plays a non-negotiable role in education. It is no longer a suggestion, but rather a mandate, in Texas, with the passage of House Bill 4 in 2015. TEC §29.168, created by HB 4, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015, requires a school district or charter school to develop and implement a **Family Engagement Plan** to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education. The local **Family Engagement Plan** must be based on the family engagement strategies established by TEA in collaboration with other state agencies. According to TEA, the goal of TAC §102.1003, High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program, is to “provide districts with an opportunity to expand or enhance high-quality prekindergarten programs for qualifying students.” This ruling also outlines school district and charter school eligibility for grant funding and qualifications for students eligible to receive instruction under the grant program. The new High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program requires school districts and charter schools to meet the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015). The proposal also identifies in rule the family engagement strategies that districts and charter schools are required to address in a **Family Engagement Plan** in order to be eligible

to receive grant funding under this program. TEA has identified six family engagement strategies which must be incorporated into the local **Family Engagement Plan**.

LEGGETT ISD FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

1. Facilitate family-to-family support.

- * LEGGETT ISD has identified this as a need and wants to establish more opportunities for parent-to-parent training and parent-to-parent support.
- * LEGGETT intends to develop parent to parent networks and programs to expand family and parent engagement activities with qualified volunteers.
- * LEGGETT ISD is striving for a strong and active PTO where parents can have engaging meeting to help assist the districts needs and establish bonds with other parents facilitating family support.
- * Parent education for parents of children receiving special education services is offered quarterly. This provides a forum for communication among parents with mutual interests and concerns.
- * Families are able to interact in a positive manner during open lunch and Parent/Community Volunteer Program.
- * Grant resources will be used to expand parent education offerings so that all families of Pre-K children will have opportunities to participate and become engaged in their child's education.
- * Parent-to-parent trainers will be recruited and volunteers will be expanded through Pre-K grant implementation.
- * The District Advisory Committee (DAC) and Campus Advisory Committees (CAC) provide opportunities for parents to interact and network with other parents interested in supporting public education in our community.
- * The Family Engagement Specialist will provide activities for LEGGETT ISD participants and their parents, encouraging family-to-family support.

2. Establish a network of family resources.

* Parent/student involvement activities are offered several times a year. This initiative has been well received and the district plans to sustain the program after the grant period ends.

* LEGGETT ISD intends to use funding from the High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program to foster and increase community connections and resources.

* LEGGETT ISD has a goal of establishing a parent resource center. The parent resource centers will offer parents a comfortable and welcoming place to come for parent meetings, parent education, and educational activities to enhance their child's learning. Resources such as educational games, supplemental materials, and books/periodicals on parenting and childhood education will be offered through a parent lending library.

* Establishing a district-wide parent resource center at the LEGGETT ISD will be discussed as an option for 2022-2023.

3. Increase family participation in decision making.

* LEGGETT ISD has established a strong foundation of collaboration with parents and community partners. The district offers multiple parent and community involvement opportunities each school year including:

- Family Field Trips,
- Parent/Community Volunteers,
- Family literacy events,
- Social work community resource services,

* Parents are provided an opportunity to discuss school issues and provide input through the District Advisory committee. The District Advisory Committee boasts multiple community leaders and parents as active and participating members. These meetings are also well attended and allow parents a voice in local education decision-making. Parents will be represented on each Campus Advisory Committee and will be involved in the writing of the Campus Improvement Plan. (first 12 weeks of school).

*LEGGETT ISD will consult with parents and families to jointly develop/revise, agree upon and distribute the District and Campus Parental Involvement Policies. (first 12 weeks of school).

* Each Title I campus has a School-Parent Compact that outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students share responsibility for improved student achievement and by what means the school and parents will build and develop a partnership describing how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The School-Parent Compact will be distributed to all Title I parents and families. (first 12 weeks of school).

* Title I campuses will host an Annual Title I Parent Meeting providing information regarding federal programs and expenditures, informing parents of their right to be involved, and explaining the reservation of funds for parental involvement and the parents' role in giving input into use of funds. (first 12 weeks of school)

* Parents and educators will have the opportunity to provide input through surveys and through postings on the district's website.

* LEGGETT ISD has a goal of increasing attendance at parent meetings and family events with a focus on first time attendees and parents of at risk students. Information will be obtained as to the best times, best nights, most convenient locations, and transportation in order to eliminate barriers to parent attendance. Nutritious refreshments/snacks and drinks, including coffee will be offered at parent meetings for parent convenience and to promote attendance.

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

* LEGGETT ISD will continue to offer full day Pre-K to eligible students, enhancing and extending socialization and facilitating parent involvement for Pre-K parents.

* High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant funds will be used to increase family engagement efforts by providing parent training in the Pre-K curriculum and assessment process, technology assistance to access

electronic reports specific to their child, early literacy, and child advocacy.

- * LEGGETT ISD will expand Pre-K family engagement opportunities through this grant so that Pre-K parent participation is increased by 50%.

- * Workshops for parents will be held at the LEGGETT ISD ECDC. Until a Parent Resource Center is fully established, parent workshops can be held afterschool and/or during the school day at with parent/teacher conferences. Topics could include:

- understanding State standards, curriculum as well as assessment,
- local LISD assessments,
- how to monitor their child's progress and work with teachers to improve student achievement,
- parenting classes
- behavior management, and
- parent literacy.

- * Parents are encouraged to access their student's grades through the Parent Portal on the LISD website.

- * ESL program information is available through the LISD ESL Coordinator.

- * Program suggestions specific to Pre-Kinder from parents and staff include:

- Special Pre-K Meet the Teacher Night,
- Parent-teacher conferences with Pre-K parents,

- * LEGGETT ISD will publish a school newsletter, available in digital format, to keep parents informed of important information including progress reports, report cards, test results, new programming options, and suggestions for parents to become involved in their child's education.

- * A monthly PRE-K newsletter will be published which will include a calendar of events along with other pertinent parent and family information.

- * District curriculum /courses of study may be accessed by a link from the LISD website.
- * Parents will be notified of their right to request and receive information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers. (Parent/Student) Written notice will be provided to a parent or guardian of each student in the classroom in which an inappropriately certified or uncertified teacher is assigned for more than 30 consecutive instructional days during a school year.
(Parent/Student Handbook)
- * Information will be provided to parents in a format and language they understand. All parent communication will be offered in English and Spanish.
- * LEGGETT ISD utilizes Remind 101, an automated text notification system. Parents receive text/email reminding them of upcoming district and campus events and meetings.
- * A call is made to parents when a child is absent, including specific periods absent for secondary students.
- * Parents are encouraged to access their student's grades through the Parent Portal on the LISD website.
- * Parents will be provided frequent reports on student progress. Report cards and school assessment results are sent home by mail each 9 weeks and at the end of each semester. Progress reports are sent home mid 9 weeks.
- * Parents will be provided information about the level of achievement of the child in each of the required state academic assessments in the final report card or as soon as practicable.
- * Federal Report Cards results will be disseminated to parents, no later than early March and placed on the website for viewing.
- * Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR) will be disseminated to parents. These reports will also be posted on the LISD website for public access.
- * Formal parent/teacher conferences are scheduled at least once per year. School-parent compacts are discussed during these conferences

at Title I campuses. Conferences are available anytime as needed by parents or teachers. An appointment may be made by calling the teacher directly or calling the school office.

- * Title I parent involvement activities will be coordinated with parent involvement activities of other programs.

- * Multiple family engagement activities will be offered at each campus throughout the school year. These activities will be documented by sign-in, agenda, and minutes (as appropriate) and filed.

- * Enrolling students will complete the Home Language Survey.

- * LISD will provide outreach to parents and families of LEP/Immigrant students and inform them how they can be involved in the education of their children and assist their children attain English proficiency, not later than 20 days after the beginning of the school year or within the first two weeks of the child being placed in a language instruction program when the child was not identified prior to the beginning of the school year.

- * LISD will promote parental and community participation in programs for LEP, Title III, Part A.

- * Parents and families of LEP/Immigrant students will be notified within 30 days if LISD fails to meet annual measureable achievement objectives.

5. Provide professional development opportunities for educators on culturally responsive, evidence-based strategies that support the education of the child.

- * Pre-K teachers' staff development plans will include strands on cultural diversity, evidence-based strategies to involve parents in the education of their children, and family poverty as it impacts schools. One cannot assume that teachers or parents come to the table with a knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity or with the skills needed to customize learning to students with diverse cultural backgrounds. These skills can and must be taught, monitored, and reinforced.

- * LISD staff will be educated in the value and utility of the contributions of parents, and in building ties between parents and schools. LEGGETT families will also have opportunities to be included in family engagement training. (first 12 weeks of school)

- * Cultural, economic, language, and demographic issues will be given attention through the selection of focus groups and advisory councils and committees.

- * Professional development will be provided for counselors and social workers including, but not limited to, cultural diversity, strategies for low socio-economic populations, behavioral strategies, and students experiencing trauma.

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

- * LEGGETT ISD currently uses parent surveys to gain information on preferences of programs and parents' perception of program effectiveness. Surveys are completed each spring to gather information to plan for the next school year. Several additional campus-specific surveys are fielded each year depending on campus needs. LEGGETT ISD has had a good response to posting surveys on the district website and will expand this effort in the 2017-2018 school year. Valuable information gathered from family surveys is used to improve programs and increase parent outreach and involvement.

- * LISD will conduct an annual evaluation and review of the content of and effectiveness of the Title I, Part A Parent Involvement Program and Parental Involvement Policy. Parents and families will be involved in this review, aimed at improving the academic quality of Title I, Part A Schools.

- * Comprehensive Needs Assessment - Family engagement efforts will be evaluated on a continuous basis at the district and campus levels to determine whether the level of participation has increased and if activities meet the needs of parents. Programs and activities will be constantly monitored, identifying strengths and weaknesses, in order to

affect change at the earliest possible date to assure program effectiveness.

* Parents and families will be consulted in the development, review/revision, and evaluation of the Campus Improvement Plans and District Improvement Plan through the CACs and DAC at the end of each school year in order to address needs and goals for the upcoming year.

INFORMATION/RESOURCES

LISD Family Engagement Contacts:

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