

## GSISD Pre-K Family Engagement Plan 2016-2017

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Grand Saline ISD is dedicated to providing quality education leading to a high school diploma for every student in our district. To accomplish this objective, we seek to partner with parents and provide opportunities for them to take an active role in their child's education. This partnership begins in the Pre-K years. Research shows that students achieve more when their parents are supportive of education, participate in decision-making at school, communicate regularly with teachers, engage with their child in learning opportunities at home, school, and in the community.

Learning objectives will be shared with parents of Pre-K during face-to-face conferences with teachers. These conferences will give parents the opportunity to provide information about their child's strengths and skills and to partner with teachers in preparing for a successful school year.

Grand Saline ISD expects each student to master the learning objectives. Support for all Pre-K students is available through the Title 1 program, the High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant program, and various other educational services provided through the district.

Grand Saline ISD currently has a campus plan that addresses parent/family engagement. The plan addresses the strategies in the High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement to maintain high levels of family involvement and positive attitudes toward education.

The district and campus have site base and ad-hoc committees that include parents, community and business members, teachers, and school administrators.

Strategies to promote effective involvement include Pre-Kindergarten Orientation, district/campus site base committee meetings, parent conferences and meetings, parent nights, PreK/Kindergarten Round Up, report card nights, school-wide family projects, book fairs, district and campus web pages, Remind 101, ESL parent training, HERO Volunteer Program, adult/student mentoring.

Parent training will be provided on the following topics; volunteer training, health education, nutrition education, child safety, male involvement event, building and maintaining self-esteem, discipline versus punishment, and transition.

The components and strategies of the Grand Saline Elementary Campus Plan for Family Engagement contain the following elements: creating a foundation for collaboration of mutual partners; embracing the individuality and uniqueness of families; promoting a culture of learning that is child-centered and family driven; the plan does establish and articulate expectations; the plan provides for annual surveys to evaluate program effectiveness to improve family engagement efforts. The plan provides for Family Engagement to facilitate family-to-family support: provide a parent room that allows parents to network, work on continuing education, etc...; encourage adult males to be involved in planning and participating in annual male involvement event; have monthly parent meetings and base topics on parent needs or requests as dictated by parent survey; ask parents to speak at parent meeting who can share about a given topic; elect parent committee members with various roles in conducting monthly parent trainings.

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The plan establishes a network of community resources: display a parent board in the hall with job openings, local sport registrations, bulletins, local family events; school liaison to build relationships with local businesses-EX. bank re comes to parent meeting and discuss finances, local dentist gives lesson caring for teeth, etc...; work with local churches to provide school supplies or food backpack program; mental health staff provides resources to parents to help child behavior or family crisis; staff works with parents to find a dental home, medical home, apply for Medicaid, SNAP, TANF, etc...

To increase family participation in decision making: parents are elected annually from parent committee to become a member of the Policy Council; include parents on site base team; liaison will develop goals with each family based on needs assessment and work with them at least monthly on the progress toward meeting the goal.

To equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning time: will provide GED study materials to parents; have a lending library for parents; monthly parent letters; provide transition meeting opportunities to assist children moving to kindergarten - tour the school, invite kindergarten teachers to parent meeting.

To provide ongoing professional development opportunities for educators on culturally responsive, evidence based strategies that support the education of the child: intentional coaching, professional opportunities to further enhance knowledge which include classroom management skills, language development, CLI Engage, Conscious Discipline and School Readiness.

The plan will evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous support. It is the goal of the district to involve all parents in all school activities. Family Engagement is the key to children's school readiness.