

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.

Midway ISD, in accordance with 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 the successful outcomes for our youngest learners in prekindergarten programs. Collaboratively, we all share the responsibility to encourage and support initiatives, activities, and practices that enhance the success of student learning and achievement.

Primary Contact Information for Families

Kim Johnston kimberly.johnston@midwayisd.org Director of Curriculum

Ashlee Brewster <u>ashlee.brewster@midwayisd.org</u> Elementary Reading,

Social Studies, and Pre-K

Coordinator



Components	Strategies
Facilitate Family-to-Family Support	The Midway ISD Prekindergarten program creates a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals, and in groups, and ensures opportunities for continuous participation in events designed for families. Strategies include:
	 Welcome Breakfast for New Families, Parent Orientation, Pre-k Round-up, and Meet the Teacher Night to help create a time to gather and talk informally with school staff and other families PTA meetings and events encouraging parent volunteer opportunities and allowing parents to work collaboratively with families who have similar interests, goals, or challenges while providing opportunities for families to have ongoing connections
	 Special Education Parent Advisory meetings and trainings that encourage families to share experiences, community resources, and support Variety of campus family events where families can get to know one another and share community and school experiences (Examples include: Snuggle Up and Read Night, STEM Night, Family Movie Night, Family Math Night, Family Literacy Night, Donuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms, Grandparent Day Events) Room parents and volunteers to support parents and classroom activities District-wide evening trainings for families on various topics such as: behavior/sensory, language and literacy home strategies, community services, bilingual strategies
	 Class field trips and other activities that include family participation Campus fall and spring carnivals where families can get to know one another and share community and school experiences Fall and spring book fairs inviting all families to get involved and get acquainted with one another District and campus advisory committees with parent members to provide opportunities for parents to interact and network with other parents interested in supporting public education in our community



The Midway ISD Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan builds strategic partnerships by

leveraging community resources; establishing and maintaining partnerships with businesses,

faith-based organizations, and community agencies; identifying support from various agencies,

Establish a Network of

Community

Resources

	including mental and physical health providers; partnering with local community-based organizations to create a family-friendly transition plan for students arriving from early childhood settings; and identifying partners to provide translators and culturally relevant resources reflective of home language. Strategies include:
	 Community Resource Guide created for our students and posted to our Midway ISD website with community agencies and contact information Midway ISD Social Workers coordinate with community agencies to connect students and families to appropriate school and community resources District newsletters that highlight community resources, events, and services to support the diverse needs of multicultural families via our webpage, Parent Square, email and social media sites
	 Collaborative partnership with KLARAS Children's Center Early Childhood Intervention Program for coordination of transition plans for early childhood students Established partnerships with businesses, faith-based organizations, and community agencies that provide a wide range of services to our campuses Provide resources reflective of home language and translators
Increase Family Participation in Decision Making	 Midway ISD promotes family participation in decision-making. Strategies include: District and campus advisory committees that include parent members Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Teachers communicate with families through daily home/school communication folders, face-to-face communication, emails, weekly newsletters, Parent Square, and educational apps Regularly held parent conferences to address the student's strengths and needs Progress monitoring reports are shared with parents encouraging their feedback,

LPAC parent representation



Equipping Families with
Tools to Enhance and
Extend Learning

Midway ISD provides opportunities for Prekindergarten families to receive the tools needed to enhance and extend learning to assist families in implementing best practices that will help achieve the goals and objectives identified to meet the needs of the child and family.

Strategies include:

- Midway ISD offers a high-quality full day Prekindergarten program to eligible learners
- Prekindergarten district webpage contains shared information and resources to support,
 enhance, and extend learning for children participating in our program
- District wide evening trainings for families on various topics such as: behavior/sensory,
 language and literacy home strategies, community services, bilingual strategies
- Teacher/parent conferences are held a minimum of 1 time per school year to collaborate on progress and discuss learning goals
- Parents are provided regular progress reports
- Parents are provided the CLI ENGAGE assessment reports 3 times a year (BOY, MOY, EOY)

Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting their Children's Learning Benchmarks Midway ISD believes in a continuous improvement philosophy. We provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families, including training on communicating with families in crisis; promoting and developing family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff; and developing staff skills to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies. Strategies include:

- Utilization of resources available in CLI Engage and Circle Progress Monitoring platforms
- Utilization of CLI Engage eCIRCLE professional development
- Utilization of CLI Family Engagement Resources
- Instructional coaching and mentoring from Learning Coaches, campus mentors, MTSS
 Facilitators, the Pre-K Coordinator, and the Director of Curriculum
- Utilization of the CIRCLE Prekindergarten Classroom Observation tool to guide professional development needed for teachers
- CIRCLE Prekindergarten Foundations professional development



Evaluate Family
Engagement Efforts
and use Evaluations for
Continuous
Improvement

Midway ISD uses self-assessment and data as the cornerstone to the overall process of evaluating our Prekindergarten program for effectiveness and to support future improvements. Efforts contributing to the evaluation process include:

- Utilize the High-Quality Prekindergarten Self-Assessment instrument created by the TEA to include results indicating strengths, opportunities to grow, and next steps for continuous improvement
- Midway ISD will conduct an annual EOY program evaluation and review the results to support improvement efforts for the next school year
- Parent surveys will gain information on preferences of program components and parents' perception of program effectiveness
- Participation in family involvement activities will be documented, and data will be used for future planning efforts to optimize family involvement

Conclusion

The Midway ISD HQPK Family Engagement Plan is one of the strategies our district uses to guide collaborative success. The positive relationships between staff and families that Midway ISD promotes through the HQPK Family Engagement plan, help build a shared understanding of how we can work together to ensure every child will reach their full potential, from birth to kindergarten and beyond.