



**High-Quality Prekindergarten
Family Engagement Plan**

- Overview of High-Quality Prekindergarten (HQPK) indicators
- HQPK Family Engagement Plan requirements
- Writing a meaningful HQPK Family Engagement Plan
- Resources & support





High-Quality Prekindergarten Indicators



HQPK Program Indicators

Student
Progress
Monitoring

Teacher to
Student
Ratio

Family
Engagement
Plan



Curriculum



Teacher
Qualifications



Program
Evaluation



Family Engagement in Early Childhood



“When parents are actively involved with their child’s early childhood education, they are more likely to stay involved when their child enters elementary school.”

-Global Family Research Project

https://globalfrp.org/content/download/419/3823/file/GFRP_Family%20Engagement%20Carnegie%20Report.pdf

“Family engagement means doing with — not doing to or doing for — families... The goal of family engagement is to build strong and effective partnerships with families to help them and their children thrive.”

-Head Start Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/family-engagement/overview-family-services-role-head-start-programs/foundations-family-engagement>



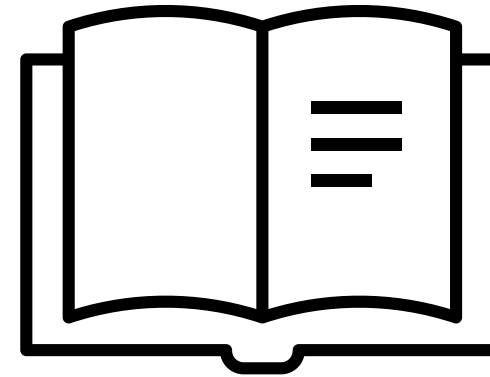
Family Engagement Plan Overview



What does Statute & Rule say?

TEC §29.168 (a)

A school district shall 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



TAC 102.1003(h)

A school district or an open-enrollment charter school shall develop, implement, and make available on the district, charter, or campus website by November 1 of each school year a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education. The family engagement plan shall **include a primary point of contact and contact information**. An effective family engagement plan creates a foundation for the collaboration of mutual partners, embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child centered, age appropriate, and family driven.

Family Engagement Plan:

Develop, implement, make available and, report

Facilitate family-to-family support

Establish a network of community resources

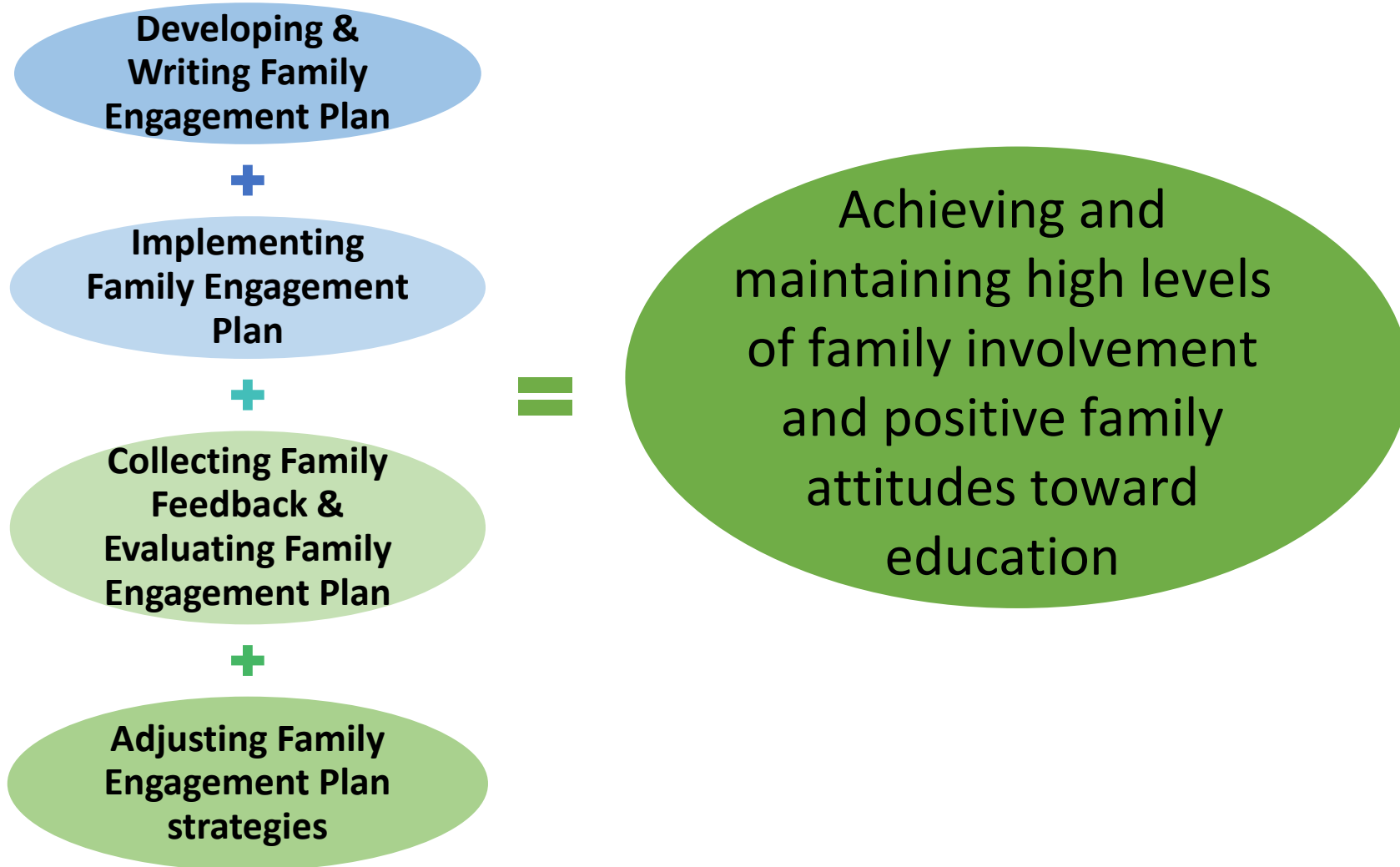
Increase family participation in decision-making

Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

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

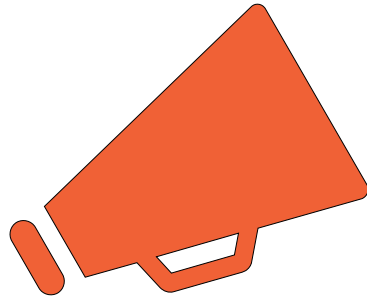
Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

What Does it Mean?



How do LEAs publish and report their HQPK Family Engagement Plan?

LEAs must make their HQPK Family Engagement Plan available to their community on their website by November 1st of each school year.



LEAs must report their FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN LINK to the ECDS annually. Links must connect *directly* to the Family Engagement plan.





Family Engagement Plan Requirements



Who should write the plan?

The writing team should include staff who work directly with families and understand the vision for prekindergarten:

- Administrative staff
- Family support staff
- Teachers
- Community childcare staff
- Parents/family members



What is required in a HQPK Family Engagement Plan?

- ❑ ***A Primary Point of Contact***
 - Includes contact information

- ❑ ***Six Family Engagement Components***
 - May include a statement describing each component
 - Activities, practices and events related to each component



#1 - Facilitate Family to Family Support

Questions to guide planning:

- How does the LEA create a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups?
- Does the LEA invite former PK parents, community members, etc. to share their experiences in the LEA with current families?
- Does the LEA facilitate opportunities for events designed for families by families?



#2 - Establish a Network of Community Resources

Questions to guide planning:

- What partnerships with businesses, faith-based organizations, and community agencies does the LEA already have?
- What are the needs of the LEA's prekindergarten community? Are there interests from parents and families that the LEA could better support?
- How does the LEA refer families to resources in the community? (Health providers, household necessities, child and adult literacy resources, etc.) Are there follow up procedures in place to determine new/continuing needs?
- Are there community resources that are not being utilized?
- Are there local partners who can provide translators and culturally relevant resources to diverse groups of stakeholders?



#3 – Increase Family Participation in Decision Making

Questions to guide planning:

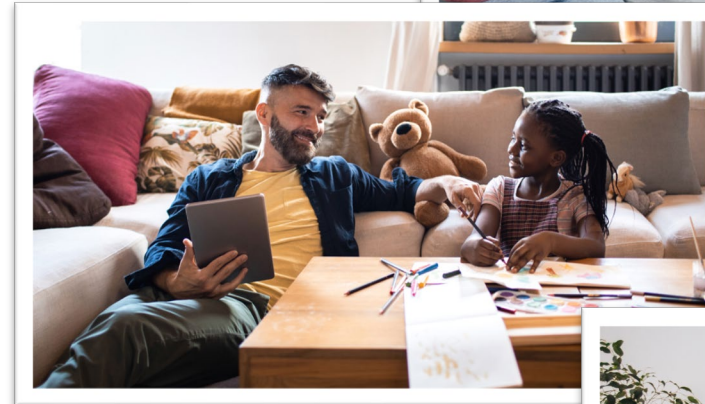
- Are there LEA resources already in place that support families as decision makers?
 - Parent Advisory Council, Parent and Family Engagement planning meetings, school/campus improvement plans, etc.
- How does the LEA invite parents to be participants in engagement and continuous improvement planning?
- How does the LEA center parent voices during problem-solving?
- When does the LEA collect parent and family input on events and initiatives? How is this input utilized?



#4 – Equip Families with tools to enhance and extend learning

Questions to guide planning:

- How does the LEA share age-appropriate developmental expectations with families?
- What resources does the LEA share with families to enhance the home learning environment?
- How does the LEA keep families connected to classroom and campus events? Are families encouraged to participate in classrooms and on campus?
- What strategies does the LEA use to collaborate with families on students' assessment results and academic goals?



#5 – Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children’s learning benchmarks

Questions to guide planning:

- Does the LEA imbed family engagement strategies into current professional development?
- Do educator trainings center family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning?
- How does the LEA support teachers in effective communication with families to encourage continued learning at home and collaborate to develop student learning goals?



#6 – Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

Questions to guide planning:

- How does the LEA gather data and feedback on engagement from stakeholders?
- How does parent, educator, and community feedback influence engagement strategies?
- What other resources might the LEA draw from to identify responsive strategies to support the community's specific needs?
 - Needs assessment, HQPK program evaluation, Title I parent surveys, Educational Service Center support





Writing a Meaningful Family Engagement Plan



What should be included in the plan?

Meaningful Family Engagement Plans should...

- Focus on leveraging families' strengths to maximize student outcomes
- Embrace families' input
- Address the needs and concerns of families
- Offer connections to other agencies and programs in the community
- Align with other district and campus engagement initiatives to support students and families beyond Pre-k

When developing strategic activities for the Family Engagement Plan, consider:

- What is the LEA's vision for family engagement and where does it fit within the LEA's greater vision or mission?
- How does the school system nurture partnership with families? Are there aspects of collaboration between home and school that can be strengthened?
- What is the intended impact of the Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan for the community, school, staff, families and children? How effectively did previous strategies achieve these impacts?

HQPK required and recommended components

Component Description	Required by Statute	Recommended by TEA	Points
Primary Point of Contact and Contact Information	X		__/1
Facilitate family-to-family support	X		__/1
Establish a network of community resources	X		__/1
Increase family participation in decision-making	X		__/1
Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning	X		__/1
Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks	X		__/1
Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement	X		__/1
One (+1 point) or more (+2 points) individualized strategic activities is included for <u>each</u> required component.		X	__/2
LEA has included an individualized philosophy and/or mission statement for family engagement		X	__/1
A Texas Home Visiting program (or partnership) is included in the plan to support families with child development and school readiness skills and strategies		X	__/1
One (+1 point) or more (+2 points) Transition to Kindergarten activities is included in the plan		X	__/2
Current academic year is reflected in the plan		X	__/1
Total Points:			__/14



More than HQPK Requirements

Shift from: Children learn only in school **to** Children learn anywhere, anytime

Shift from: Random family engagement efforts **to** Continuous family engagement that starts early and lasts along a child's entire learning pathway

Shift from: Some families are engaged **to** Engagement conditions enable all families to participate in their children's education

Shift from: Doing for and to families **to** Actively co-creating opportunities for family engagement with families

Shift from: Mismatched expectations, beliefs, and practices held by teachers and families **to** Changing mindsets and developing capacity to leverage families' strengths

What resources can be used for writing a HQPK Family Engagement Plan?

School &
Community
Calendars

District &
Campus
Transition
Plans

Planning/
Continuous
Improvement
Documents

District &
Campus
Title I PFE
Policies

Parent
Feedback
Surveys

Partnership
Agreements
with
Community
Programs





Resources & Support





Question:

Can our Title I Parent and Family Engagement policy count as our HQPK Family Engagement Plan?

Answer:

Yes, **if all the required HQPK Family Engagement Plan components are included in the plan**, it can count. This also applies to Head Start, Title IV or other programs with a written engagement plan.



Question:

Should the Family Engagement Plan be a district-wide plan or can it be relevant to just one campus?

Answer:

A district should have one document that covers the whole district. Campus-level modifications within a district may be made to suit the needs of each prekindergarten program. The Family Engagement Plan URL associated with the entire district for the actual HQPK Family Engagement Plan document or for the webpage where the HQPK Family Engagement Plan is posted must be submitted to TEA within ECDS.



Question:

When is the Family Engagement Plan due? How do I send it to TEA?

Answer:

Districts must have a written Family Engagement Plan containing the six required components and must make their HQPK Family Engagement Plan available to their community **on their website by November 1st** of each school year. The URL for the HQPK Family Engagement Plan must be **reported to TEA within the ECDS** each year (usually due at the end of June).

Pre-k Family Engagement Plan Resources

- [Family Engagement Plan Rubric](#)
- [Sample Family Engagement Plan](#)
- [Family Engagement Plan Sample Activities](#)
- [HQPK & Title I PFE Side-by-Side Guidance](#)

Family Engagement Plan Suggested Activities

Requirements of High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plans and Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Question	High Quality PreK Family Engagement Plan	Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) Policy
Is a written engagement plan required at the district level?	Yes. A school district or an open-enrollment charter school shall develop, implement, and make available on the LEA website by November 1 of each school year, a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education.	Yes. Each local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy.
Is a written engagement plan required at the campus level?	No.	Yes. Each school served under this part shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the engagement requirements.

Texas Education Agency High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plans against TEA HQPK Family Engagement Plan Rubric

The TEA developed the Family Engagement Plan Rubric to evaluate the quality of Local Educational Agencies' Family Engagement Plans against the standard(s) established by the House Bill 3 High Quality Prekindergarten Guidelines.

The TEA HQPK Family Engagement Rubric is broken into two sections:

- **Required Components** – the six areas that a HQPK Family Engagement Plan must include, per statute ([SAC §102.1003](#) & [TEC §29.149](#))
- **TEA Recommended Components** – additional strategies and resources that will support LEA efforts to engage families, support their needs, and build partnerships early on in a child's education.

Component Description	Required by Statute	Recommended by TEA	Points
Facilitate family-to-family support	X		1/1
Establish a network of community resources	X		1/1
Increase family participation in decision-making	X		1/1
Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning	X	X	1/1
Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks		X	1/1
Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement		X	1/1
One or more Strategic Activities are included for each required component		X	1/1
LEA's philosophy and/or mission statement for family engagement		X	1/1
A Texas Home Visiting program is included in the plan		X	1/1
Transition to Kindergarten activities are included as a strategy		X	1/1
Current academic year is reflected in the plan		X	1/1
Total Points			

ABC ISD HQPK Family Engagement Plan

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 chief educational officer's Collaborative, we all share the responsibility to encourage and support initiatives, activities, and practices that enhance the success of student learning and achievement.

Family Engagement Plan Development Committee Members:

Contact Person for Families:

Family Engagement Plan

Family Engagement Plan Component	Component Description	Activity/Item/Practice Details and Timing
Family Support	Inclusive, transparent communications allow school personnel to create a safe and respectful environment to promote interaction between households.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly PK Caregiver meet ups Weekly/Monthly Caregiver newsletter PK/PK Student Learning Surveys PK Round-Up with childcare programs, Head Start Brain Development Book Studies PK/PK Meet the Teacher events Jump Rope for Heart events Meet & Greet with community resources for caregivers Literacy Night event Parent Day event Parent Workshops with local Texas Home Visiting program ABC ISD Community Resources Handbook Campus Improvement Resources Handbook District Caregivers Panel School Board Early Childhood Committee LPAC Committee Parent Group

Other Family Engagement Resources

- TEA Early Childhood Program Self-Assessment
<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/early-childhood-education/early-childhood-program-self-assessments>
- Office of Head Start: *Building Partnerships with Families Series*
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/family-engagement/relationship-based-competencies-support-family-engagement/relationship-based-competencies-support-family-engagement>
- CLI Engage *Family Engagement Resources*
<https://public.cliengage.org/tools/quality/family-engagement-resources//>
- Parent Teacher Association - *National Standards, Goals & Indicators for Family-School Partnerships*
<https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/National-Standards-for-Family-School-Partnerships>

- Reach out via the [ECE Support Portal](#) for any questions/support including HQPK, Early Childhood, and Family Engagement





Thank you!

