



Increasing Collaborative Support: Writing a Family Engagement Plan

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DIVISION



Goal

Each Educational Service Center and the Early Childhood Education Division of the Texas Education Agency will work collaboratively to uniformly equip and support districts and charters in each region with the creation of a Family Engagement Plan that meets the expectations of Rider 78.

Why is Family Engagement So Important?



Let's Review



Review Questions on Sli.do

Website: www.slido.com

Event Code: #4607

Let's Write



Possible Outline of Family Engagement Plan

➤ Introductory paragraph:

- Describes districts'/charters' overall approach to family engagement

➤ Family Engagement Plan:

- Lists events or practices associated with the six expected components

➤ Conclusion:

- Concludes the document with encouraging words to urge parents/guardians to become involved with their children's education

Six Expected Components of the Family Engagement Plan

The family engagement plan shall:

- 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

Activity



Let's Practice: "Meet the Teacher" Event



Into which of the six components does this event fit?

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day Holiday	Back-to-School Night			Distribute Family Surveys	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Grandparents Day @ School			Positive Parenting Class Begins		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Family Resource Fair (10:00 – 2:00)			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Literacy Night @ 6:00 p.m.				

EVENTS

Staff Development

Wednesday, 9/6/17 (Early Release Day) – Topic: Responding to Families in Crisis

Staff Meetings

Every other Thursday after school – Focus for month: Creating a welcoming atmosphere for parents

Student Progress Monitoring

Focus for the month is completing the BOY SPM for all children to inform classroom instruction

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Hearing & Vision Screening				Autism Parent Coaching Series begins	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			DACA Educational Workshop for Parents @ 1:00 p.m.			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
				Family Fun Night @ 6:00		Connecting to Community Resources Event (10:00-2:00)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Parent Conferences Begin					
29	30	31				
	Special Education 101 Workshop for Parents @ 8:00 a.m.					

EVENTS

Staff Development

Wednesday, 10/11/17 (Early Release Day) – Topic: DACA Educational Workshop (staff are encouraged to attend)

Staff Meetings

Every other Thursday after school – Focus for month: Results from Parent Survey – What Can We Learn?

Connecting to Community Resources Event

Staff are encouraged to attend event to learn about resources in the community that their students/families may need.

Let's Compile

What activities, events or practices fit into:

- 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?

Possible Questions



Various possibilities to assist districts and charters ?

What if a district/charter does not have the necessary documents ?

Six Components - Identification of Activities, Events and/or Practices

- School Calendar:
 - Facilitating family-to-family support
 - Establishing a network of community resources
 - Increasing family participation in decision-making
 - Equipping families with tools to enhance and extend learning
- Staff Professional Development Plans:
 - Developing staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks
- Planning/Continuous Improvement Efforts:
 - Evaluating family engagement efforts and using evaluation for continuous improvement

Possible Outcomes

- District/charter has adequate family engagement activities in each of the six components
- District/charter has no family engagement activities in one or more of the six components
- The family engagement activities are not spread out over all six components in a fairly-even way

Sample Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions
- Video showing importance of family engagement
- Review information given in webinar titled *Writing a Family Engagement Plan*
- Parts of Family Engagement Plan
- Activity using school calendar, professional development plans and planning/continuous improvement documents
- Next steps

Quality Checklist - Family Engagement Plan

Quality Measure	Proficiency	Proficiency in Progress	Proficiency to Begin	Follow-Up
The prekindergarten program has developed a written Family Engagement Plan that guides the collaboration, interaction and support of students' families.				
The prekindergarten program implements the activities, events and practices that are written in the Family Engagement Plan.				
The written Family Engagement Plan contains sufficient activities, events and/or school practices that are linked to the first component: facilitating family-to-family support.				
The written Family Engagement Plan contains sufficient activities, events and/or school practices that are linked to the second component: establishing a network of community resources.				

Other Considerations

- Logistics
- Possible revisions
- Feedback?
- Additional needs?

Resources

Writing a Family Engagement Plan Toolkit:

- Presentation
- Family Engagement Review Questions
- Activity Handout
- Quality Checklist
- TEA's Guidance Document

Available at:

https://tea.texas.gov/Academics/Early_Childhood_Education/Educator_Resources/

Proposed Schedule

- Topic: Effective Family Engagement Activities
 - Webinar - February 6, 2018
 - TETN - February 15, 2018

- Topic: Access
 - Webinar - March 6, 2018
 - TETN - March 15, 2018

- Topic: Program Evaluation
 - Webinar - April 6, 2018
 - TETN - TBD

- Topic: Data Reporting
 - Webinar - May 2, 2018
 - TETN - TBD

TEA - Early Childhood Education Division

Jacquie Porter, *Director*
jacquie.porter@tea.texas.gov

Sylina Valdez, *Manager*
sylina.valdez@tea.texas.gov

Scott Bodnar, *Manager*
scott.bodnar@tea.texas.gov

Howard Morrison, *Statewide
Coordinator*
howard.morrison@tea.texas.gov

Tamala Olsby, *Program Specialist:
Quality*
tamala.olsby@tea.texas.gov

Miguel Gomez, *Program Specialist:
Access*
miguel.gomez2@tea.texas.gov

Anna Gu, *Program Specialist: PreK
Partnerships*
anna.gu@tea.texas.gov

Cody Summerville, *Program Specialist*
cody.summerville@tea.texas.gov

© 2018 by the Texas Education Agency

Copyright © Notice.

The Materials are copyrighted © and trademarked ™ as the property of Texas Education Agency (TEA) and may not be reproduced without the express written permission of TEA except under the following conditions:

- 1) Texas public school districts, charter schools, and education service centers may reproduce and use copies of the Materials and Related Materials for the districts' and schools' educational use without obtaining permission from TEA.
- 2) Residents of the state of Texas may reproduce and use copies of the Materials and Related Materials for individual personal use only, without obtaining written permission from TEA.
- 3) Any portion reproduced must be reproduced in its entirety and remain unedited, unaltered, and unchanged in any way.
- 4) No monetary charge can be made for the reproduced materials or any document containing them; however, a reasonable charge to cover only the cost of reproduction and distribution may be charged.

Private entities or persons located in Texas that are not Texas public school districts, charter schools, or education service centers, or any entity, whether public or private, educational or non-educational, located outside the state of Texas must obtain written approval from TEA and will be required to enter into a license agreement that may involve the payment of a licensing fee or a royalty.

For information, contact the Office of Copyrights, Trademarks, License Agreements, and Royalties, Texas Education Agency, 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas, 78701-1494; phone 512-463-7004, email: copyrights@tea.texas.gov.

