

Pre-K Family Engagement Plan

Rice CISD has developed the following Family Engagement Plan to support student success in Pre-K. Input in the development of the plan was provided by teachers and parents.

1. The Family Engagement Plan is designed to facilitate family-to-family support by including activities that will equip families to educate other families in how to support their child's success in school. Parents' meetings will be scheduled at the end of each 9 weeks. At those meetings time will be allocated for networking in a safe and respectful environment so that families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups.
2. The Rice CISD has established a partnership with a local foundation to provide support for the Pre-K program by underwriting programs and resources for parents. The foundation provides field trips for experiential learning and purchases school supplies for the children to alleviate the financial burden of those purchases from parents. The school district has also solicited aid from local civic organizations to provide students with winter coats, if needed, supplemental food and assistance with utility bills. Those resources are posted on the district website. The district also partners with the Rice District Medical Center to provide students, with parental consent, to be seen by a doctor free of charge during the school day without parents having to leave work. Basic health screening is also provided by the school nurse. County agencies partner with the Rice district to provide family counseling services. Short and long-term goals of the program are communicated to all stakeholders through family activities, classroom meetings and teacher/parent conferences. Translators are provided at all events and activities where parents are in attendance.
3. Goals for parent involvement are included in the Campus Improvement Plan. Parents are provided with information about the Family Engagement Plan at the fall orientation. Parents are invited to give their input on the plan. Surveys in the spring are used to evaluate the Pre-K program and the Family Engagement Plan. Adjustments are made to the plan accordingly after reviewing survey results.
4. An evening registration is held in April so that parents who work in the daytime can get information about the Pre-K program and get assistance with the enrollment process. A translator is present for that event. Parent activities/meetings are scheduled every 9 weeks to offer parents strategies or resources for extending their child's learning at home. Activities include orientation, Conscious Discipline at Home presented by ESC 3 Early Childhood Specialist, Family Reading Night in which teachers model questioning that parents can use when reading with their child, Pre-K Rodeo that includes a family activity completed at home prior to the event, Christmas Program, Grandparents Day,

and Pre-K graduation. All parents are offered the opportunity to attend the Region 3 Parent Involvement Conference in Victoria each fall. Transportation is provided by the district upon request.

5. The Pre-K staff receives training on using culturally relevant, diverse and responsive family engagement strategies. The training emphasizes that developing and promoting family engagement is a core strategy to improve student performance.
6. The Assistant Superintendent and Campus Principal will assure that a program evaluation plan is an initial component of the Pre-K program, assuring that both parents and teachers play a role in the family engagement evaluation process. The evaluation of the plan will be the basis for a continuous improvement plan.