

# **INDUSTRIAL I.S.D**

## **PreKindergarten Family Engagement Plan**

**“Because They Think They Can, They Will!”**

Family Engagement can be defined as the mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement and to support the continuous learning and development of children, families and educators. Industrial I.S.D. PreKindergarten Family Engagement Plan is designed to create a foundation for the collaboration of these stakeholders and promote a culture of learning that is child centered and family driven. It’s purpose is to promote and develop family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.

### **The Family Engagement Plan will:**

**(A) *Facilitate family to family support.***

- Establish a Pre-K parent center designed to support the Parents as Teachers too (PATT) approach.
- Invite parents to attend Pre-K Boo-Hoo breakfast to establish relationships with the administrative team.
- Quarterly family nights that will highlight learning that is taking place in the classroom and allow parents the opportunity to explore the newly developed center, network with one another, and engage in strategies to support their children.

**(B) *Establish a network of community resources.***

- Utilize the newly created Parent Center and Family Nights to provide information for parents regarding Community Resources.
- Invite representatives from community entities to share information at parent nights.

**(C) *Increase family’s participation in decision making.***

- Participate in parent teacher conferences bi-annually to make decisions as to their students’ progress (within and from grade to grade) based on academic success, learning styles, special needs, language, and developmentally appropriate practices.
- Utilize newsletters and electronic media to increase school to home communications.
- Communicate ways that parents can become involved in the decision making process through Cobra Community Connection, site-based decision making, the school Parent Teacher Committee and other avenues.
- Actively solicit feedback via parent surveys.

**(D) *Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning:***

- Offer opportunities for families and children to visit the school prior to school starting during the Meet the Teacher campus time.
- Utilize the newly created Parent Center and Family Nights to introduce families to developmentally appropriate practices and ways they can support their students at home with simple activities (e.g. cooking, cleaning, reading, outside play etc.). Families will understand the importance of literacy/numeracy, discussing their student's day, advocating, and making the most of simple everyday household activities with children in tow.
- Provide families with their child's progress monitoring information and offer suggested activities related to the age appropriate developmental expectation during face-to-face parent conferences.

***(E) Develop staff skills in evidence-based strategies that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks:***

- Family engagement trainings designed to foster family participation, to bridge communication gaps and to ensure families are integrated into the school's partnership plan will be implemented. These trainings will explore:
  1. effective communication strategies
  2. how to actively engage families in their child's learning
  3. advocating with families
  4. families as partners
  5. inclusion/cultural sensitivity/awareness

***(F) Evaluate Family Engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement:***

- Utilize a parent survey instrument to evaluate family engagement efforts and use the survey results for continuous improvement and adjustment.
- Utilize the IISD Survey of District Effectiveness, the IISD Community Engagement Survey and the IISD Needs Assessment to evaluate family engagement efforts.