

# Harper Elementary School

## PreKindergarten Family Engagement Plan

2022-2023

### **HISD MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS**

#### **Mission**

In collaboration with our families and community, Harper ISD will provide a safe, caring, and challenging educational environment. Staff members are valued for their individual contributions, and students are supported to rise to high expectations of individual excellence.

#### **Vision**

Harper ISD will foster a culture of excellence that prepares all students for postsecondary success and will inspire a culture of performance excellence and foster academic price.

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

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Harper Elementary School is committed to the goal of providing a quality education for every child in this school. We want to establish partnerships with parents and the community because we recognize that school and the home cannot be looked at as separate entities; families and schools must collaborate to help our children graduate as critical thinkers and problem solvers. We want our students to know and understand how to be successful citizens so that they can positively compete as well as contribute to this global society.

Family engagement is defined as “the mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships that support student learning and achievement as well as support family well-being that encourages the continuous learning and development of children, families and educators.” Family engagement is fully integrated in the child’s educational experience and supports the whole child as it recognizes and responds appropriately to both cultural and linguistic diversity. Family engagement has been recognized by both researchers and practitioners as a key component that plays a non-negotiable role in the educational process.

According to the Texas Education Agency, the goal of the High-Quality Pre-Kindergarten Program is to “provide districts with an opportunity to expand or enhance high-quality prekindergarten programs for qualifying students.” TEA has identified the following six family engagement components which must be incorporated into the local Family Engagement Plan:

1. Facilitate family-to-family support
2. Establish a network of community resources
3. Increase family participation in decision-making
4. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning
5. Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children’s learning benchmarks

6. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluation for continuous improvement.

As mentioned above, a major component of expanding and enhancing any education program is a high-quality family engagement design.

## **FACILITATE FAMILY-TO-FAMILY SUPPORT**

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Create a safe and respectful environment to ensure opportunities for continuous participation in events where families can learn from each other and social events to connect with one another such as:

- Open House
- Meet the Teacher
- Book Fair Nights
- Special Events (Walk-a-Thon, Field Trips, etc.)
- Encourage Bilingual Translators Among Parents
- Easter in the Park

## **ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

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Collaborate and identify support from and establish partnerships with community businesses and organizations.

- Career Day
- Fundraisers (Walk-A-Thon)
- Volunteers
- Hill Country MHDD
  - Youth Mental Health First Aid Training
- Eduhero Training
  - Child Abuse Awareness
  - Bullying Management
  - Suicide Awareness & Prevention
- Needs Council
- Local Churches

## **INCREASE FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING USING STRATEGIES**

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Encourage family engagement and participation in decision making to support and impact positive achievement.

- Site Based Decision Meetings
- Family Engagement Meeting
- Surveys
- Facebook Page
- Parent Conferences
- Phone Calls

- Emails
- School-Parent Compact for Achievement

## **EQUIP FAMILIES WITH TOOLS TO ENHANCE AND EXTEND LEARNING**

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Provide opportunities for two-way communication between parents and school to enhance learning.

- Book Fairs
- Social Media (Facebook)
- Parent Conferences
- School-Parent Compact for Achievement
- Technology Apps that Enhance Learning

## **DEVELOP STAFF SKILLS IN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES THAT SUPPORT FAMILIES IN MEETING THEIR CHILD'S LEARNING BENCHMARK**

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Emphasize awareness of Parental Involvement and promote family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.

- Professional Development
- Parent Conferences
- Region PreK Meetings with Region 15
- Crisis Training
- Progress Monitoring and Sharing Data
  - CLI Engage
  - Imagine Learning (ESL Program)
  - Istation
  - Eduphoria

## **EVALUATE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS AND USE EVALUATIONS FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

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Use data to ensure alignment between family engagement activities, school teaching, and learning goals.

- Keep records of family participation/attendance in school events
- Log communications with families