

Cayuga Independent School District Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan

Cayuga ISD has developed and implemented this prekindergarten family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family engagement in prekindergarten and positive family attitudes toward education at the prekindergarten level. This family engagement plan is designed to support six components of family engagement critical to the development of a high quality prekindergarten program. These six components and supporting family engagement activities are outlined below.

Facilitate family-to-family support

Facilitate an environment where families can feel safe and respected.

Invite and encourage parents to participate in such things as: prekindergarten specific family engagement activities, volunteering, classroom parties, reward days, field trips, theme week activities, and parent conferences.

Hold events such as: Open House, Book Fair, and Meet the Teacher where students can explore their classroom and learning environment.

Reach out to families eligible for prekindergarten to provide them with campus tours and welcome packets with information on expectations, procedures, and school preparation.

Establish a regular and meaningful communication system between school and home. Send daily folder home with expectations, student work, and weekly newsletters of what students will be learning.

Establish a network of community resources

Provide families with community resources and brochures they may need such as: the food bank/pantry, county health department, state insurance programs, counseling, library activities and programs, and immunizations.

Provide information on where to receive assistance with applications on: WIC, SSI benefits, CHIP, TANF, SNAP.

Continue partnerships with Child Find, ECI program, and Anderson County Special Services.

During the summer, provide information to parents about summer food programs, camps, and local library information.

Provide translators and culturally relevant resources in alternative languages when needed.

Increase family participation in decision-making

Develop, adopt, and implement goals within the annual campus improvement plan targeting family engagement.

Offer opportunities for families to provide input on programs, policies, communications and events through daily communication forms and parent/teacher conferences.

Encourage parent participation in campus and district level advisory committees.

Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

Promote the value of education as a pathway to success.

Create a safe, nurturing and respectful environment.

Provide resources reflective of home language.

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

Provide professional development opportunities for educators on culturally sensitive, evidence-based strategies including workshops through Region 7 ESC.

Through participation with Region 7, prekindergarten teachers across the district come together to discuss the importance of engaging families and to share best practices and tools for effective parent outreach.

Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

Promote prekindergarten parent and teacher feedback through communication logs and phone calls. Utilize parent input in planning, developing, and implementing programs.

Cayuga Elementary School will monitor student progress using data from BOY and EOY assessments.

Cayuga Elementary School teachers will reflect on curriculum, strategies, and practices.