

Cayuga Independent School District Pre-Kindergarten 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. This six components and supporting family engagements 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: PreK 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 and those that have signed up for PreK, provide them campus tours and welcome packets with information on expectations, procedures and school preparation.

Establish a regular and meaningful communication system between school and home (daily folder home with expectations and student work, 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 access to parents, children and community to 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 during 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 children's learning benchmarks

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

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 PreK parents and teachers feedback through communication logs, phone calls. Use 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.