

The Schools of Perea Family Engagement Plan

The Schools of Perea will develop a culture for Perea families to collaborate and work together as one system that encourages families to learn from each other as individuals and in groups, invite community partnerships to share education and career experiences with families, and provide opportunities for continued participation and involvement.

Parents' involvement is vital to the success of our students. Research shows that parent involvement enhances student self-esteem, increases academic achievement and cognitive development, and improves student behavior and attendance. The Schools of Perea has created a family engagement plan that reflects practices that enhance parent engagement and community involvement.

A. Facilitate family cohesion and school belonging

Strategies include:

- A Parent Resources Center onsite to provide parents with resources to help with self-sufficiency, student achievement, counseling, and supportive services.
- Assist families in creating goals for their child and help in obtaining those goals.
- Include Family Engagement Coordinator, Family Engagement Assistant, and Community Partners to support families with workshops to enhance skills level of adults, translations, and share information about programs.
- Families involved in the home visit program set family goals where the Family Engagement Coordinator supports learning outcomes.
- Family engagement events are provided monthly to families to increase family engagement.

B. Establish a network of community resources

Strategies include:

- Build community partnerships with community and technical colleges such as Southwest Community College, TCAT-Memphis, and Arkansas State University-Mid-South.
- Maintain a relationship with city-wide organizations to enhance adult and child learning.
- Inform families of various resources and outreach programs and other organizations that promote learning and well-being.
- Link families with support services, peer-to-peer groups, and various resources depending on family needs.

- Ensure that families are aware of services and their rights under federal and state laws.

C. Increase family participation in decision-making

Strategies include:

- Improvements to the Parent Advisory Board to increase parent togetherness and work to improve our school.
- Families will be given the opportunity to give input on campus climate surveys, beginning, and end of year surveys, surveys about future programs, surveys about their needs, surveys about family engagement, etc.

D. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

Strategies include:

- Approach parents as equal partners in their child's education while emphasizing parents as the child's first teacher.
- Parent/Teacher conferences twice a year to discuss their child's academic progress.
- Providing monthly calendars that provide ideas and activities to do with their child at home to enhance the learning in the classroom.
- Technology workshops to allow parents to be active partners in their child's education and help them become 21st-century learners and ultimately digital citizens.
- Host a networking workshop providing a wide variety of community services available at the event.
- Family Engagement Coordinator providing individual sessions on developmentally appropriate activities to utilize at home.

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

Strategies include:

- Ongoing professional development for all staff members in the area(s) of cultural responsiveness and how to connect families.
- Provide knowledge based on the importance of family engagement.
- Provide professional development that focuses on crucial conversations.
- Additional professional development to include de-escalation skills, dealing with families in crisis, confidentiality, etc.

- Gain an understanding of early intervention services to support family inquiries and needs.

F. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement

Strategies include:

- The Family Engagement Coordinator will conduct goal-oriented home visits.
- Data collected at home visits.
- Participation data will be collected at family engagement meetings.
- Ensure that parents' voices are heard and acknowledged during the improvement cycle.