

# Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan

## John H. Cherry Elementary School

1. Creates a foundation for collaboration of mutual partners.
  - i. Host a Meet the Teacher Night before school begins in August
    1. Discuss expectations and PK readiness standard
  - ii. Host a “Prekindergarten Parent Night” to take place after first round of PPVT assessments
    1. Include a “Meet and Greet” during the “Prekindergarten Parent Night” for parents to establish relationships with other parents
    2. Utilize parents in preparing materials and leading discussions and sessions at the “Prekindergarten Parent Night”
  - iii. Hold conferences with parents at the end of the first six weeks
  - iv. Select parent representatives to serve on various campus committees
  - v. Collect data through annual Parent Survey, and use this data to guide CIP for following year
  - vi. Utilize CARES and PTA volunteers for various events throughout the school year
  - vii. Partner with Lions Club to complete annual vision screening of students
  - viii. Partner with the State Department of Health to provide dental screenings and sealants free of charge to students
  - ix. Coordinate meetings with local daycares and Upbring (Headstart) to invite parents of upcoming PK students to informational sessions
  - x. Develop and implement a plan for Parent Informational Sessions to be held 30 minutes before PK programs, when parents are already on campus
    1. Invite a variety of community programs and resources to speak during these sessions
    2. Identify parent leaders who can share personal experiences and advice during these sessions
  - xi. Invite parents to attend and encourage their participation and leadership in planning various events including Fall Festival, Christmas Program, PK Rodeo, Valentine Party, and Field Day
  - xii. Encourage parents to participate in the “Read to Me” program
2. Embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families.
  - i. Collect data through annual Parent Survey, and use this data to guide CIP for following year
  - ii. Encourage parents to participate in the “Read to Me” program
  - iii. Prepare and send home resources from the “Home School Connections” program
  - iv. Implement “We Both Read” program, utilizing these books which encourage parents and students to read together at home

- v. Frog Street curriculum includes a unit regarding family at beginning of the year; continue emphasizing respect of the uniqueness of families
- vi. Utilize weekly teacher newsletters, monthly principal newsletters, conferences, PeachJar, email, Cherry Facebook page, teacher and campus websites
- vii. Coordinate meetings with local daycares and Upbring (Headstart) to invite parents of upcoming PK students to informational sessions
- viii. Host Bilingual Parent Meeting for bilingual/ESL students and families
- ix. Provide opportunities for adults to learn English through weekly language enrichment classes
- x. Create and provide all materials in English and Spanish
- xi. Provide translators as needed to facilitate conferences, meetings, etc.
- xii. Hold conferences with parents at beginning of the year to discuss PPVT and CLI assessment results
- xiii. Purchase and provide materials to parents at registration regarding PK readiness
- xiv. Make home visits as necessary to identify strengths and needs of the families
- xv. Invite parents to attend and encourage their participation and leadership in planning various events including Fall Festival, Christmas Program, PK Rodeo, Valentine Party, and Field Day
  - 1. Encourage parents to provide feedback regarding these events through a questionnaire
- xvi. Campus nurse and administrators assist parents with referral processes to a variety of local support programs including Texana, WIC, and MEHOP
- xvii. Develop and implement a plan for Parent Informational Sessions to be held 30 minutes before PK programs, when parents are already on campus
  - 1. Invite a variety of community programs and resources to speak during these sessions
  - 2. Identify parent leaders who can share personal experiences and advice during these sessions

3. Promotes a culture of learning that is child-centered and family driven.

- i. Continue to host Meet the Teacher Night before school begins in August
  - 1. Discuss expectations and PK readiness standards
- ii. Host a “Prekindergarten Parent Night” to take place after first round of PPVT assessment
  - 1. Include a “Meet and Greet” during the “Prekindergarten Parent Night” for parents to establish relationships with other parents
  - 2. Coordinate monthly “Meet and Greet” sessions for PK parents to continue communication with one another
- iii. Hold parent-teacher conferences with parents at the end of the first and third six weeks, and any other time when it becomes necessary to discuss the student’s academic progress

- iv. Utilize weekly teacher newsletters, monthly principal newsletters, conferences, PeachJar, email, Cherry Facebook page, teacher and campus websites to continue to promote the value of education throughout the school year
- v. Utilize student behavior folders to communicate students' emotional and behavioral states to their parents, with a focus on positive behaviors
- vi. Provide training to parents regarding Conscious Discipline techniques which are utilized in the PK classrooms so that these may also be used at home
- vii. Create and distribute a Parent Questionnaire to identify parents' goals and expectations for their students, as well as to identify parents' concerns with their child's behavior, and physical/emotional/academic development
- viii. Develop and implement a plan for Parent Informational Sessions to be held 30 minutes before PK programs, when parents are already on campus
  - 1. Identify parent leaders who can share personal experiences and advice during these sessions
- ix. Host Bilingual Parent Meetings for bilingual/ESL students and families
- x. Create and provide all materials in English and Spanish
- xi. Provide translators as needed to facilitate conferences, meetings, etc.
- xii. Frog Street curriculum includes a unit regarding family at beginning of the year; continue emphasizing respect of the uniqueness of families with this unit
- xiii. Teachers create and send home a variety of projects which encourage parents and children to work together for completion
- xiv. Provide parents with Frog Street Connection, a component of the curriculum which provides specific instructional strategies (i.e. learning games) to use at home to support what is being taught in the classroom
- xv. Maintain a campus website for parents to access useful links, apps, and more which emphasize the value of education and family support at home

4. Establishes and articulates expectations.

- i. Host Meet the Teacher Night before school begins in August
  - 1. Discuss expectations and PK readiness standards
  - 2. Provide a packet with classroom rules, a copy of the PK report card, and the supply list
  - 3. Review campus and district procedures and policies
- ii. Host a "Prekindergarten Parent Night" to take place after first round of PPVT and CLI assessments
  - 1. Include a "Meet and Greet" during the "Prekindergarten Parent Night" for parents to establish relationships with other parents
  - 2. Coordinate monthly "Meet and Greet" sessions for PK parents to continue communication with one another
- iii. Hold parent-teacher conferences with parents at the end of the first and third six weeks, and any other time when it becomes necessary to discuss the student's academic progress, and to make suggestions for parents to help student at home

1. Explain the “Read to Me” book program at the first parent-teacher conference
  - iv. Utilize weekly teacher newsletters, monthly principal newsletters, conferences, PeachJar, email, Cherry Facebook page, home visits, phone calls, teacher and campus websites to continue to articulate expectations throughout the school year
  - v. Develop and provide a packet of information to parents during early registration with useful information for PK parents
5. Evaluates and improves family engagement components.
- i. Updated PK report card reflects newest PK Guidelines (as of 2015)
  - ii. Model PPCD report card after the PK report card
  - iii. Maintain open dialogue with parents through conferences, phone calls, email, notes, and in the dismissal line, and encourage parent input regarding all aspects of the PK program
  - iv. Develop projects to be completed at home with the assistance of a parent
  - v. Encourage parent participation in CARES and PTA