



Mabank ISD is committed to providing a **high-quality prekindergarten program** that nurtures the academic, social, and emotional development of our youngest learners. We recognize that strong partnerships between families, schools, and the community are essential for student success. Our goal is to engage families as active partners in their child's learning journey from the very beginning.

In accordance with **Texas Education Code §29.168** and **Texas Administrative Code §102.1003(h)**, Mabank ISD has developed a comprehensive Family Engagement Plan to strengthen home-school connections and support the needs of all students and families. This plan reflects research-based best practices and is grounded in **Rider 78 of the General Appropriations Act (2017)**, which defines family engagement as:

"The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships that support student learning and achievement, family well-being, and the continuous learning and development of children, families, and educators. Family engagement is fully integrated into the child's educational experience, supports the whole child, and is both culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate."

The goals and strategies outlined below demonstrate how Mabank ISD facilitates meaningful family engagement throughout our early childhood programs.

For questions or support regarding the Early Childhood Family Engagement Plan, please contact:

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Family Engagement Goals And Strategies in Action

1. Facilitate Family-to-Family Support

Mabank ISD provides opportunities for families to connect, learn from one another, and collaborate in a safe and respectful environment. These activities build strong family networks that support student growth and school success.

Strategies include:

- Creating inclusive spaces for families to engage in shared learning experiences, both individually and in group settings.
- Inviting former program participants, including families and community volunteers, to share personal stories about their educational and career journeys.
- Offering training and activities that promote family leadership and collaboration.
- Encouraging continuous participation in events **designed for families by families**.

Prekindergarten teachers and teaching assistants will support family engagement by offering opportunities such as:

- **Day and evening events** to accommodate family schedules.
- **Hands-On Family Engagement Nights** that promote interactive learning experiences.
- **Pre-K-specific family engagement activities** tailored to the developmental needs of young learners.
- **Collaborative efforts with Head Start** and other early learning partners to strengthen community support.
- Opportunities to volunteer in classrooms or at school-wide events.
- Participation in **Parent/Teacher Organizations (PTOs)**.
- **PK Round-Up activities** to welcome and orient new families.
- Inclusion in **class field trips and on-campus events** that encourage active family participation.

2. Establish a network of community resources

Mabank ISD recognizes the value of strategic partnerships and community resources in supporting the whole child and their family. By building strong, coordinated relationships with community organizations, the district enhances learning, wellness, and engagement opportunities for all families.

Strategies include:

- **Building strategic partnerships** with local organizations to expand support services and learning opportunities.
- **Leveraging community resources** to support families in areas such as health, financial stability, and early learning.
- **Monitoring and evaluating** family engagement practices to stimulate innovation and ensure continuous improvement.
- **Collaborating with community-based organizations** to develop **family-friendly transition plans** for children moving into prekindergarten from other early childhood settings.

Examples of community collaboration and support include:

- **District Family Support Services** for connecting families to available assistance.
- **Campus Parent Education** offering skill-building workshops for parents (e.g., financial literacy, parenting strategies).
- **Child Nutrition Services** to share information and promote healthy habits.
- **Partnerships with mental and physical health providers** to ensure access to essential services.

Additional supports:

- **Referrals** to family support groups or educational opportunities based on specific family needs and interests.
- **Clear communication** of both short- and long-term program goals with families, staff, and community partners.
- **Identification of community partners** who can provide **translators and culturally relevant materials** that reflect students' and families' home languages and cultures.

3. Increase Family Participation in Decision-Making

Mabank ISD values families as essential partners in shaping the educational experiences of their children. We promote active participation in decision-making at the campus and district levels to ensure that family voices are heard, respected, and integrated into planning and improvement efforts.

Strategies include:

- **Including Early Childhood Families in the DEIC committee** to provide input on prekindergarten programming and family engagement initiatives.
- **Incorporating family engagement goals** into each campus's annual **Campus Improvement Plan**, based on identified needs and collaborative discussions.
- **Engaging families in collaborative problem-solving** to address challenges and improve student learning outcomes.
- **Encouraging two-way communication**, ensuring that information flows both from school to home and from home to school.
- **Co-creating measurable goals, outcomes, timelines, and strategies** for family engagement in partnership with parents and guardians.
- **Offering families regular opportunities to review and provide feedback** on program practices, policies, and communication tools to ensure responsiveness and relevance.

Examples of how families participate in decision-making include:

- **Conducting parent surveys** to gather feedback on instructional practices and engagement efforts in Pre-K.
- **Maintaining open lines of communication** using tools such as:
 - Daily communication journals
 - Remind App
 - Class Dojo
 - Social media platforms
 - Parent-teacher conferences
- **Involving families in Campus Level Meetings** and decision-making committees.
- **Inviting feedback after events** to continuously improve family engagement strategies.
- **Encouraging participation in PTA/PTO organizations** to support campus-wide initiatives.
- **Distributing Weekly Communication Folders** with updates, resources, and feedback opportunities.
- **Administering District Surveys** to assess family satisfaction and areas for growth.

4. Equip Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning

Mabank ISD is committed to helping families create strong home learning environments that support and reinforce classroom instruction. By providing resources, training, and meaningful learning opportunities, families are empowered to actively participate in their child's early education.

Strategies include:

- **Designing and sharing home learning resources** that align with the Pre-K curriculum and strengthen the family-school connection.
- **Providing families with training and information** to support learning at home, including:
 - Access to **CLI Engage** digital and print reports for progress monitoring and assessments.
 - Parent training events throughout the school year focused on developmental milestones, behavior, and school readiness.
- **Encouraging participation in evening activities** that promote family learning and engagement.
- **Equipping families with knowledge and tools** to support transitions into school, including:
 - **Pre-K Round-Up events** and **Kinder Kick-Off meetings** to prepare families for the school experience.
 - Opportunities for families to **visit the school** and meet staff prior to the start of the school year.
- **Providing complementary home learning activities** through:
 - Parent-teacher conferences
 - Open House events
 - Weekly communication folders
- **Sharing information and best practices** related to:
 - Developmentally appropriate expectations
 - Positive parenting techniques such as **Love and Logic** and **Capturing Kids' Hearts**
 - Strengthening family relationships through nurturing, attachment, and responsive parenting
 - Managing behavior in a supportive, non-punitive manner

Examples of family engagement opportunities include:

- **Campus Early Literacy and Math Family Nights**
- **Performance updates** through CLI Engage, ESGI, and other tools
- **Use of communication platforms** such as Remind, Class Dojo, and campus/district websites
- **Campus-scheduled home visits** to build strong family-school relationships
- **Family-oriented events** such as Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom, and Fatherhood Engagement Events

5. Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices That Support Families in Meeting Their Children's Learning Benchmarks

Mabank ISD recognizes that well-trained educators are essential to building strong partnerships with families. Through focused professional development and intentional coaching, staff are equipped with the tools and strategies needed to support family engagement and enhance student learning outcomes.

Strategies include:

- **Providing professional development** on effective communication and engagement with families, including how to:
 - Engage with families during times of crisis
 - Build trust and mutual respect
 - Encourage two-way communication
- **Promoting family engagement** as a foundational strategy for improving instruction and student outcomes.
- **Training staff in culturally responsive practices** that are reflective of and respectful toward the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students and families served.
- **Utilizing assessment and progress monitoring tools** to inform instruction and communication with families:
 - Training on **CLI Engage**
 - Training on **ESGI**
- **Offering high-quality professional development opportunities** including:
 - Access to Region 10 Education Service Center training for High-Quality Pre-K
 - Ongoing **coaching and support** throughout the year
 - Targeted **professional learning sessions** in Mabank ISD based on assessment data and classroom needs

These efforts ensure that staff are empowered with evidence-based strategies and knowledge to effectively engage families and support their children's academic growth and development.

6. Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluations for Continuous Improvement

Mabank ISD is committed to reviewing and refining its family engagement practices using data-driven strategies. Through regular evaluation, the district ensures continuous improvement and alignment between engagement activities and student learning goals.

Strategies include:

- **Conducting goal-oriented home visits** to identify individual family strengths, interests, and needs that impact student learning.
- **Developing data collection systems** to:
 - Monitor family participation across all campuses
 - Identify trends in engagement among specific populations
 - Inform adjustments to practices that help close achievement gaps
- **Aligning family engagement activities** with district and campus instructional priorities using:
 - Review and analysis of **parent surveys** regarding instructional practices and family engagement experiences in Pre-K
 - Maintenance of **event attendance records, communication logs, and sign-in sheets**
 - Utilization of a **program evaluation tool** to identify strengths and areas for growth
- **Using a cyclical evaluation process** to:
 - Reflect on current practices
 - Make evidence-based adjustments
 - Promote sustainable and continuous family engagement
- **Ensuring educator involvement** in the evaluation process to ensure that insights from classroom-level interactions inform district-wide strategies

By embedding evaluation into the family engagement framework, Mabank ISD strengthens its ability to build meaningful, effective, and responsive relationships with families.