



## **HB4 High-Quality Pre-Kindergarten Grant Program Family Engagement Plan**

Elevate Collegiate Charter School (ECCS) understands the essential role of families, communities, and schools in the development and success of all students. The Family Engagement plan, while specific to House Bill 4 for the Pre-Kindergarten students, serves as a launching pad for young children as they enter school and lays the foundation of a lasting family, community, and school partnership.

### **Definitions of Family and Family Engagement**

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) defines family as “Adults responsible for the child’s care and children in the child’s life who support the early learning and development of the child.”

TEA also defines family engagement as, “The mutual responsibility of families, schools, and communities to build relationships to support student learning and achievement and to support family well-being and the continuous learning and development of children, families, and educators. Family engagement is fully integrated in the child’s educational experience and supports the whole child and is both culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate.”

ECCS family engagement plan illustrates the components and strategies used to provide increased opportunities for family engagement in the early years of a child’s school career.

### **Pre-Kindergarten Family Engagement Plan**

- Facilitate Family-to-Family Support- ECCS will provide family members with opportunities to participate in district and campus initiatives. These opportunities include:
  - Volunteering
  - District and Schoolwide Hands-On Family Engagement Events
  - Campus Parent/Child Kindergarten Introduction Events
  - Meet The Teacher
  - Pastries w/ Parents Program
  - Campus Websites/Social Media Accounts
  - Translations
  
- **Establish a Network of Community Resources** - ECCS will strengthen the network of community resources available to families of Pre-Kindergarten students and work to make sure families are aware of these resources. These resources include:
  - ECCS resources including the Counseling Center

- School Business Partnerships
- Community Health Center Resources
- ECCS mentoring program
- ECCS services for students who are homeless
- Families in Transition Community Resource and Referral Guide
- Youth Service Specialists
- Mental Health Intervention Support
- Translations
- Various Campus Committees

• **Increase Family Participation in Decision Making** - ECCS will invite families to evaluate Pre-Kindergarten family engagement events and programs. These opportunities include the following:

- Parent Conferences with an emphasis on collaborating with families to solve problems
- Campus cultural and instructional learning committees
- Campus Newsletters
- Title I Parent Involvement Surveys
- Surveys at ECCS Family Learning Events
- Parent Surveys

• **Equip Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning** – ECCS will use strategies to help families create positive, meaningful, and fun learning opportunities at home. These strategies will include the following:

- ECCS has committed to providing a chromebook to support learning for all Pre-K students
- Frog Street Pre-K at Home offers online activities, e-books, Read-Alouds, videos that demonstrate best practices, and songs for students and parents to practice math, literacy and social emotional skills at home.

• ABCmouse Schools extends Frog Street Pre-K curriculum through digital content while allowing children to learn and practice literacy and math skills.

- Kindermusik at Home Materials to enhance learning through music and literacy.
- ST Math's visual instructional program allows students the opportunity to solve mathematical problems and provides students challenging puzzles, non-routine problem solving, and formative feedback.

• **Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting their Children's Learning Benchmarks** – ECCS will provide professional development to all staff working with Pre-Kindergarten families in order to ensure that they understand the importance of family engagement in a student's learning. These offerings will include the following:

- Campus Staff Development Days, August Staff Development Days
- ECCS Early Childhood Teacher Conference
- Teacher Workdays

- Frequent meetings and planning sessions with campus administrators regarding Pre-Kindergarten

- **Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluations for Continuous Improvement**

- ECCS will encourage families to provide feedback to district leaders. These avenues for feedback will include the following:

- Campus Parent Involvement Surveys
- Campus Event Evaluations
- Campus Parent Committees
- Parent Surveys

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