

# Smyer ISD Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024

Elementary school preparedness is not just about a child recognizing shapes, reciting the alphabet, and/or recognizing the days of the week.

Ours is a culture and an educational climate in which increased emphasis is put on preschool development and overall school readiness. Parents and schools are expecting more of children, because research in the past decade has shown young children are capable of more than previously thought. Most skills cannot wait until kindergarten to be learned.

Educators realize you can instill in the young child his or her perception of success and a love for learning. Smyer ISD PreK is dedicated to providing young children a foundation for educational excellence.

PLAN: Smyer ISD will create a safe and respectful environment for students and parents/guardians.

## STRATEGIES:

Provide an open house for parents and students to get to know one another.

Use Class Dojo to communicate directly with parents, share news, updates and share pictures of students doing various skills at school.

Gives children the foundation to succeed in school and life by increasing their social competency, making them ready for success.

Provide a welcoming space for parents to gather and talk during the school year with one another before and/or after the school day.

Encourage parents to come observe in the classroom and become more active as volunteers.

Encourage staff to make "Positive" phone calls or postcards monthly,

PLAN: Smyer ISD will establish a network of community resources by partnering with South Plains Community Action Association.

## STRATEGIES:

Provide up to date information on community resources on a regular basis to parents.

Meetings are held monthly and gives parents the opportunity to discuss common concerns and share ideas. These are planned from the interest expressed by the parents in our school.

Keep parents thru our ESC in Lubbock informed of relevant workshops.

Encourage staff to build relationships with the community and provide them with time to participate in community events/meetings that enhance the programs ability to meet family needs.

Provide a monthly PreK newsletters with information about topics that may be of interest to families, classroom activities, community events.

Follow up with families on referrals to see if services were received and parents were satisfied.

PLAN: Smyer ISD will increase family participation in decision making.

STRATEGIES:

Develop and support a family advisory council.

Include more parents on our school committees, and class events.

Implement goals within the annual campus improvement plan targeting family engagement. Include parent involvement goals on CIP.

Develop, in collaboration with families, goals, outcomes, timelines and strategies to the needs of families.

Use parents as equal partners with staff in reviewing family engagement survey results and making decisions regarding plans for continuous improvement.

PLAN: Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning.

STRATEGIES:

Provide families with information and/or training to support their children through transition to school.

Provide home learning activities for families to engage in at home.

Provide at least twice during the school year parent teacher conferences.

Utilize a parent bulletin board to share information on upcoming school and community events and to focus on monthly child development topics.

The class will use Class Dojo for class announcement, photos, events, volunteer request, to do items, and parent teacher conference sign ups.

Host an open house.

PLAN: Growing socially and excelling academically

STRATEGIES: The curriculum is a language-based program that is the Savvas Learning Company: Three Cheers for Pre-K curriculum. It is a multi-sensory teaching technique involving the total child. Children receive structured academic experiences that produce a

strong foundation in reading, writing, math, spelling and expression. This program is designed to provide successful opportunities for all students, regardless of their learning styles.

We believe that children thrive in a structured, yet flexible, environment. Pairing this philosophy in a loving, safe, and nurturing environment, allows children to reach their fullest potential. The academic and social skills that we practice every day at Smyer ISD will be carried with your child as they transition from PreK to kindergarten.

- This PreK program focuses on the following skills:

Sound-Symbol Association

Music and Singing

Coding and Blending

Social Studies

Decoding Spelling

Science

Handwriting

Health and Physical Education

Math Concepts

Indoor and Outdoor Play

Vocabulary Development

Verbal Expression

Teaching through creative play with activities that provide hands-on experiences with educational materials. Social and Self-Help skills are the most important skills necessary for children to succeed in kindergarten and these are gained through fun learning activities.

PLAN: Develop staff skills to support families in meeting their children's learning.

STRATEGIES:

Provide essential professional development.

Provide training for teachers on how to respond to families that are in a crisis.

PLAN: Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluation for continuous improvement.

STRATEGIES:

Conduct home visits to identify strengths, interest and needs.

Ensure teachers and parents play a role in the family engagement evaluation process.

Conduct Parent Conferences to assess student needs.

Survey parents annually on the effectiveness of the prekindergarten experience for their child and their family.