

La Porte ISD Family Engagement Plan Prekindergarten  
2018-2019 School Year

The La Porte Independent School District (LPISD) believes that all parents, teachers, and community members are a valuable link in the educational success of all students. We promote the involvement of these key stakeholders by having them take part in the process that allows them to contribute to our school community providing input regarding the services offered in an effort to maximize the quality of education for Prekindergarten students in LPISD. We have developed a Family Engagement Plan to increase the collaboration between all stakeholders. The active participation of parents, teachers, and community members in all aspects of students' education is a valuable tool that LPISD welcomes and respects.

Components

A. Facilitate family-to-family support

La Porte ISD will create safe and respectable environments where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups, invite participants to share their education and experiences, and ensure opportunities for continuous participation in events designed for families.

*Strategies include:*

Availability of district-wide, free, opportunities to attend the Prekindergarten Engagement Nights. Parents/guardians and their child attend these sessions, specifically designed to be developmentally appropriate for preschool students. Activities are planned and facilitated by certified teachers. Parents are encouraged to share with other parents and make connections for continued relationships beyond school programs.

A variety of Campus Family Literacy, Math and Science Nights will be held throughout the year. Prekindergarten campuses will provide specific opportunities for parents of preschool students to engage in developmentally appropriate activities and learn and share from one another.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities are offered at campuses to provide parents an opportunity to meet other parents and share experiences.

## B. Establish a network of community resources

La Porte ISD will build partnerships with community agencies and faith-based organizations, utilize community resources, and identify support from various agencies that provide services to the students in an effort to equip parents and caregivers with skills needed to have a healthy and productive family.

Strategies include:

The Curriculum Department will develop a list of family resources and post it on the district's website.

The Curriculum Department will post the list on website main page and provide the list to all early childhood teachers along with teacher training on parent engagement.

Community members, the La Porte Head Start, private child care providers and faith-based organization parents will be invited to meet with the Executive Director of Elementary Education to discuss partnerships and mutual needs.

## C. Increase family participation in decision making

La Porte ISD encourages family participation in decision making by collaborating with families to develop strategies to solve problems. Families will be provided opportunities to shape program activities and cultivate a flow of two-way communication.

*Strategies include:*

Parents and community members will be invited to participate in Campus Performance Objective Committees. Through this committee, parents will be encouraged to review and provide input on program practices, communications, and events to ensure the program is responsive to the needs of families.

The Curriculum Department, along with parental participants, will review the Parent Engagement Plan to gather feedback and make recommendations.

Invite family feedback (evaluations) and suggestions with regard to activities being provided.

D. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

The La Porte ISD Prekindergarten Program will equip families with learning opportunities to enhance and extend learning and provide families with information and training to create a home learning environment with positive family experiences and practices.

*Strategies include:*

Availability of district-wide, free, opportunities to attend the Prekindergarten Engagement Nights Program. Parents/guardians and their child attend these sessions, specifically designed to be developmentally appropriate for preschool students. Activities are planned and facilitated by certified teachers who model strategies for high levels of positive interactions with young children.

The Curriculum Department will collaborate with campus staff for Literacy, Math and Science Events to develop specific opportunities for preschool families.

The Curriculum Department will provide preschool specific Parenting Education Classes on developing literacy and math skills.

Prekindergarten staff will offer individual parent conferences with families at least once a year.

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

The La Porte ISD Early Childhood Department will provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families.

*Strategies include:*

The Curriculum Department will provide ongoing professional development for all early childhood staff in the area of cultural responsiveness and how to connect and engage with families.

The Curriculum Department will model and collaborate with early childhood staff in providing parent learning opportunities.

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

La Porte ISD will monitor family engagement efforts and use data to ensure alignment between activities and goals to ensure continuous improvement and adjustment.

Participation data will be collected at family engagement events, such as math, Literacy, and science nights.

Teacher feedback will be solicited regarding family engagement initiatives.

The Curriculum Department will review data and usage information to promote continuous improvement in family engagement activities.