

**Weimar Independent School District
Weimar Elementary School 2023-2024
High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan**



Weimar Elementary School is committed to providing quality education to every student in the district. Partnerships with parents and the community are essential to accomplish this goal. We believe that when parents are more involved in the academic process, school becomes more of a priority for their children. It is our mission to produce a community of life-long learners. It is our pledge to maintain a good line of communication from school to homes and our goal is to provide ample opportunities for parental involvement throughout each school year.

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Family Engagement Plan

A. Policy Components

1. Facilitate Family-to-Family Support Inclusive, transparent communications allow school personnel to create a safe and respectful environment to promote supportive interaction between households.

- Meet the Teacher before the first day of school. Families get to know each other on an informal basis.
- An English Second Language (ESL) night is held annually in August and bilingual members of the community are available to translate information for new families.
- WES hosts events that bring families together, such as family literacy nights and Open House during Public Schools week.

2. Establish a Network of Community Resources Weimar ISD will build strategic partnerships with community organizations to leverage community resources for caregivers through the community resources handbook, and ongoing district-wide events.

- WES has a community partnership with Parents as Teachers in the Weimar and Schulenburg areas. There is a Learn and Play room on our school campus for families to attend with their children who are not yet school age.
- WES hosts a Pre-K Readiness Community Awareness meeting to discuss learning expectations for 3 and 4 year olds. All of the local daycare centers and parents are invited to attend to support transitions from daycare and home to prekindergarten.
- WES partners with Turtle Wing, Hatch, Beyond Therapy, and Texana to provide resources to students and their families.

3. Increase Family Participation in Decision Making Throughout the year, participation in district and school-wide decision-making empowers caregivers as their child's first teacher and advocate.

- Parents are invited to join the WES Parent Teacher Organization. This group helps develop, adopt, and implement goals within the annual campus improvement plan.

- WES sends home a parent survey annually to gather family feedback about the school.

4. Equip Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning Caregivers have multiple opportunities to learn about student progress and ways to support success at home. Caregivers also have personal extended learning opportunities.

- WES teachers provide families with student progress reports from state testing three times a year. (CIRCLES assessment)
- WES offers tours of the campus prior to Pre-K registration, and a Pre-K Readiness meeting.
- The Pre-K report card is a checklist of all student expectations throughout the course of the year. Parents are informed about age-appropriate expectations.

5. Develop Staff Skills in Evidence-Based Practices That Support Families in Meeting Their Children’s Learning Benchmarks Pre-kindergarten teaching staff participate in professional development opportunities to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relative, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies and enhance instruction.

- WES teachers provide family conferences to discuss the progress of their children as often as necessary, and at a minimum of twice a year. These conferences are in private spaces.
- Professional development is offered to teachers and paraprofessionals that develops skills in working with families.
- WES teachers work with the counselor to identify how to respond to families that are in crisis.

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

Ongoing campus/district needs assessment cycle will seek input to improve the quality of instruction, climate, and family engagement.

- WES surveys parents annually about the effectiveness of the prekindergarten experience for the child and family.
- WES conducts an early childhood program self assessment to evaluate our Pre-K program and make program adjustments to meet the needs of all students.

Conclusion:

The Weimar ISD Family Engagement Plan is one of the strategies our district uses to guide collaborative success. The positive relationships between staff and families that Weimar ISD promotes through the Family Engagement plan, help build a shared understanding of how we can work together to ensure every child will reach their full potential, from birth to kindergarten and beyond.

Evaluation Strategies: WES conducts an early childhood program self assessment annually.

Family Engagement Plan Development Committee Members:

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The Family Engagement Plan is available on the Weimar ISD website. www.weimarisd.org