



Albany ISD Family Engagement Plan 2018-2019

Albany ISD in accordance with HB4 TEC 29.168 will create a partnership between our families, schools, and community for the successful transition into kindergarten. The Albany ISD Prekindergarten/Early Childhood program embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child centered and age appropriate. Building partnerships between educators and families, by way of the **Family Engagement Plan**, ensures that every learner is encouraged, supported, and challenged to achieve the highest levels of knowledge, skills, and character.

Family: HB4 definition of family includes adults and children that are significant to the child's life, which support early learning and the development of the child.

Family Engagement: Family engagement is the mutual responsibility of families, school, and communities to build relationships to support 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.

Family Engagement Plan: An effective family engagement plan creates a foundation for the collaboration of mutual partners, embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child-centered, age-appropriate, and family-driven.

The Family Engagement Plan shall:

- Facilitate family-to-family support
- Establish a network of community resources
- Increase family participation in decision making
- Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning
- Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks
- Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement"

Albany ISD
Family Engagement Plan

Goal #1:

Facilitate Family-to-Family Support

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #1:

Prekindergarten teachers, teacher assistants, and the Nancy Smith Elementary campus will provide parents with opportunities to participate in district and campus initiatives such as:

- Head Start Collaboration
- Scheduled Holiday Parties
- Book Fair
- Grandparent's Day Celebration
- Field Trips
- Meet the Teacher
- Literacy Night
- Field Day
- Fall Festival
- Pastries with Parents

Goal #2:

Establish a network of community resources

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #2:

Albany ISD in partnership with community and faith-based organizations will create a network of resources that will directly benefit Prekindergarten families. These resources may include:

- Head Start Collaboration
- SHAC Backpack for Kids Programs
- Resource Care Clinic
- Lions Club (eyeglasses)
- Albany Ministerial Alliance
- Albany Closet Angels

Goal #3:

Increase family participation in decision-making

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #3:

Prekindergarten families will be invited to participate and serve on:

- Campus Level Meetings
 - District Level Meetings
 - District of Innovation Committee
 - Federal Program Meetings and Surveys
 - PTO Meetings
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Goal #4:

Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #4:

Prekindergarten families will be encouraged to attend learning opportunities to enhance and extend learning by providing parents with home activities that are age and developmentally appropriate to help prepare families for kindergarten by, but not limited to:

- Scheduled face-to-face parent meeting
- Providing home learning activities to enhance family engagement in the learning process
- Collaborating with families to respond to children's behavior in a positive and supportive way
- Daily work folders
- Bloomz app
- Facebook page

Goal #5:

Provide ongoing professional development opportunities for educators that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmark

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #5:

- CLI Engage teacher resources
 - Pre-K Collaborative through Region 14
 - Conscious Discipline
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Goal #6

Evaluate family engagement efforts and use results of the evaluations for continuous improvement

Evidence of Pre-K Family Engagement Plan Goal #6:

- Use survey results/parental input to provide valuable information in planning, developing and implementing prekindergarten activities for the district.
- Conduct goal-oriented home/face-to-face visits to identify strengths, interests and needs.