



The University of Texas Elementary Charter School HB4 PK Family Engagement Plan

Our Community Commitment from Pre-K to Ph.D.

- **U**nity: Collaboration and Communication
- **T**enacity: Resilience and Optimism
- **E**xcellence: Achievement and Growth
- **S**afety: Health and Climate

Goal	Strategy
Facilitate family-to-family support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families are invited to Meet the Teacher on August 9, 2021. Times will be staggered by last name to ensure social distancing can be observed. • Uniform swap/purchase will be available during Meet the Teacher in the café for those needing uniforms. • Back to School Night on August 24, 2021 will be virtual. This provides families an opportunity to ask questions and get more detailed information about the school day. • Weekly COVID Rapid Testing is being provided to students on the 1st school day of the week from 7:15AM – 8:00AM. • Little Longhorn League (L3) parent organization is sponsoring evening and weekend events to help build community within the school. Announcements are provided via Class Dojo. • Special Areas: students attend 2 special areas each day. Classes include Spanish, Music, STEAM and PE. • Content Themed events throughout the year –Winter Concert, STEAM Night, and Special Areas Showcase. At this time there will not be any in person events. If there is a change in COVID 19 protocols, families will be notified via Class Dojo and the Thursday Update email. • Track and Field Day at this time will entail fun activities in the Spring during the class PE scheduled time. • Book Fair will be during the school day November 8th-11th and March 7th-12th. • Students will be allowed to go on Field Trips this year as long as COVID 19 protocols are followed. • Teachers communicate with parents via a daily folder, along with email, and Class Dojo. Parents can also reach

	<p>out by phone to schedule an in person or virtual meeting by calling the main office at 512-495-3300.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School information can be found on The UT Elementary School website and through a weekly information email along with a bimonthly principal newsletter.
<p>Establish a network of community resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Scott our school social worker can be reached by email katie.scott@austin.utexas.edu or phone (512) 495-3339. She provides and facilitates referrals to family support or educational groups based on family interests and needs. • Kerry Aguillon, school nurse can be reached by email Kerry.aguillon@austin.utexas.edu or by phone (512)495-3305. She provides and facilitates referrals to families in need of health resources. • Enrichment opportunities with community partners such as the local farmers market, and within the various colleges at The University of Texas at Austin. • Community Thanksgiving Drive and the Christmas Angel Tree for families in need is also a way for families to contribute to our school community. • Free books for families through the University of Texas Service Organization - Orange Santa. • YMCA after school program on campus provides after school care and enrichment. There is Austin Recreation center van pick-up for afterschool care programming. • Annual Career Day –provides an opportunity for community members to share their expertise with students, families are welcome to attend, the event will be virtual this year. • Community readers for International Women’s Day and Dr. Seuss’ Birthday.

<p>Increase family participation in decision making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families actively participate in Little Longhorn League Parent Organization (L3). Monthly meetings are on the 1st Thursday of every month and all are welcome. Zoom invite information is shared through Class Dojo. • Families are encouraged to volunteer by reaching out to the classroom teacher for opportunities. • Campus personnel provide opportunities for family members to serve on the Education Council, Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) committee, School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) and the UTES Management Board. • Families are given the opportunity to give input through campus surveys. • Biweekly principal chats via Zoom are available to parents to give input and ask questions.
<p>Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers provide instructional ideas for home during the fall and spring parent conferences. • Families are given access to online resources and programs for their student. • STEAM nights incorporate activities for families to do at home with their student. Currently not scheduled for the 2021-2022 school year due to COVID protocols. • Literacy nights for families of students in PK-2nd offered twice a year. This will be offered virtually this year. • Free Book Fair late in May to get ready for summer reading.
<p>Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and engagement with families, including training on communicating with families in crisis. • Staff participate in professional development and use culturally diverse and relevant curriculum through the Social Justice Initiative. • Staff participates in ongoing professional development in the areas of academic and social emotional learning (Conscious Discipline). Currently K-2nd grade teachers are

	<p>participating in the Reading Academy and all staff are receiving training in Brain-Based Learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teachers participate in Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) Model which is a research-based instructional model that has proven effective in addressing the academic needs of Emergent Bilingual students.
<p>Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School site-based decision-making committees – Education Council and Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) include parent representatives.• Campus utilizes sign-in sheets to monitor family attendance at events.• Campus surveys include family input are utilized in creating the district improvement plan (DIP).