



## **Dr. M.L. Garza-Gonzalez Charter School**

### **Family Engagement Plan**

The Dr. M.L. Garza-Gonzalez Charter School (DMLGG) values its families. The Board of Trustees, administration and staff understand the importance of involving our families in the education of our students. This plan outlines strategies to support family-to-family engagement, to provide a network of community resources, to involve families in the decision-making process, to equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning, to develop staff to support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks, and to evaluate and improve on the family engagement strategies used each year.

DMLGG is committed to engaging parents in meaningful educational experiences with their children. DMLGG solicits input from parents throughout the school year., through parent surveys, parent meetings, and Title I meetings

**Nuestra Juventad---Our Youth - Nuestro Futuro ---Our Future**

Dr. M. L. Garza-Gonzalez Charter School

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## **Family-to-family support**

- ★ DMLGG has created social media partnerships such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and BAND app to encourage positive communication and announcements.
- ★ DMLGG will discuss the family engagement plan and the importance of family-to-family support to parents at an annual meeting.
- ★ Parents will be encouraged to communicate during classroom events.
- ★ DMLGG will host presentations on topics that are of current interest.
- ★ DMLGG will host Science Night, Math Night, Family Literacy Night, etc. that include presentations and time for hands on activities
- ★ DMLGG will have an open-door policy for parents

## **Network of Community Resources**

- ★ DMLGG will distribute a list of local community and social service agencies website addresses and phone numbers at the beginning of the school year and will make them available throughout the school year.
  - Texas Department of Human Services
  - Child Abuse Hotline
  - Health Department
  - Texas Health Steps
  - Child Advocacy Center
  - District Attorney
- ★ DMLGG will conduct surveys each spring (for currently enrolled families) to determine family interests and needs. A survey will also be given to new families as they register in the spring and summer. The surveys will be evaluated to plan family activities, plan parent development classes, and revise the community resource list.
- ★ DMLGG will recruit/identify people who are willing to serve as translators as the need arises. Translators will agree to have their contact information listed on the local resource's handout.

## **Family participation in decision-making**

- ★ DMLGG site-based decision-making committee that will include at least one parent.
- ★ DMLGG will solicit input from all parents concerning the parent involvement policy, parent-teacher-student compacts, and family engagement plan.
- ★ DMLGG will collect surveys each spring designed to allow parents an opportunity to evaluate the DMLGG campus and provide suggestions for improvement.

- ★ DMLGG parents will be invited to the year-end Title I meeting designed to solicit parent input.
- ★ DMLGG will include all parents in the annual Title I meeting held at the beginning of school.
- ★ DMLGG will sustain an open-door policy that makes teachers and administrative staff available to parents daily.

**Equip families to with tools to enhance and extend learning.**

- ★ DMLGG will continue to offer full day Pre-K to all students using the enhancing and extending socialization and facilitating parent involvement for all DMLGG parents.
- ★ DMLGG will provide parent training in the curriculum, and assessment process to parents.
- ★ DMLGG will provide a Parent Resource Center.
- ★ DMLGG will provide
  - Meet the Teacher Night
  - Student Showcases
  - Parent-Teacher conferences
- ★ DMLGG will publish a monthly newsletter to keep parents informed of important information including program activities, suggestions for parents to become involved in their child's education, and upcoming events. This will be made available in digital format.
- ★ DMLGG will send home a monthly calendar of events that will include activities that can done at home for little or no cost corresponding to activities done in the classroom.
- ★ DMLGG will provide information to parents in a format and language they understand. All parent communication will be offered in English and Spanish translation as needed.
- ★ DMLGG will provide parents frequent reports on student progress using hardcopy and electronic reports. Report cards are sent home every 6 weeks.

**Provide support to staff regarding their students learning benchmarks (test results)**

- ★ DMLGG will promote and develop family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.
- ★ DMLGG will provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families.
- ★ DMLGG will use developmentally appropriate activities to help children understand differences in families, cultures, and traditions.
- ★ DMLGG will make space available for staff to meet with families privately.

**Evaluate family engagement efforts and use the evaluations for continuous improvement.**

- ★ DMLGG will include family engagement efforts on the spring survey designed to identify family interests and needs.

- ★ DMLGG will evaluate parent survey responses during the campus comprehensive needs assessment during the spring and summer.
- ★ Changes to family engagement efforts and the family engagement plan will be highly dependent on parent input.