

**2019-20 Promising Practices - Effective Parent and Family Engagement (PFE)**

This promising practice form is provided by the Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Statewide Initiative to gather descriptive information from PK-12 schools on specific PFE strategies that have helped to increase parent & family engagement and student outcomes. Submission is voluntary.

Use this for activities that were funded with federal, state, or local dollars and/or other funding sources.

**Next steps:**

1. Complete all questions and save this document for your records.
2. Please submit **one** promising practice per submission form. (*You may submit more than one practice*)
3. Email completed form to [terri.stafford@esc16.net](mailto:terri.stafford@esc16.net).
4. Applications will be accepted from January 15, 2020 through August 28, 2020.
5. Promising practice submitted will be reviewed and scored by statewide committee and initiative staff.
6. Selected promising practices will be awarded at the 2021 Statewide Parental Involvement Conference, highlighted in the PFE newsletter and on the Title I, Part A PFE Statewide Initiative Website.
7. Use Arial font, size 12.

**General Information**

1. LEA (District) Name and Address:	North East ISD 8961 Tesoro Drive San Antonio, Texas 78217	
2. School (Campus) Name & Address:	Dwight D Eisenhower Middle School 8231 Blanco San Antonio, Texas 78216	
3. Contact Name and Title:	Rachel Hicks, Family Specialist	
4. Contact Email and Phone #:	<a href="mailto:Rhicks1@neisd.net">Rhicks1@neisd.net</a> 210-356-3579	
5. Title of practice and brief description of practice:	Connect High School to Career and College Parents will experience a guided tour of Texas A&M University-San Antonio (TAMUSA)	
6. Demographics:	<p><b>Description of the populations served:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Urban</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban</p> <p><b>Size of District:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4A</p>	<p><b>Ethnicity %s:</b></p> <p>Hispanic: 70%</p> <p>African American: 7%</p> <p>White: 17%</p> <p>Asian: 2%</p> <p>Amer Indian/Alaskan Native: 1%</p> <p>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 1%</p> <p>2 or more:</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> 5A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6A	
7. Which funds, if any, helped to support the project? (Check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> ESSA Title I, Part A (Parent and Family Engagement) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This practice was (partially or fully) funded by local dollars. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - please specify: TAMSU	
8. Grades impacted:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PK-Kindergarten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elementary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle School/Junior High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High School

**Initial Planning and Implementation – Promising Practice**

9. What is the goal of the practice?	<p>Parents will increase their knowledge of the requirements of college admissions. Parents will recognize college preparation begins in the early years. Parents will also understand that it is never too late to begin a college education. Parents will gain valuable information regarding financial aid options available to students. Parents will have access to brochures, campus calendars and financial aid forms.</p>
10. How was the practice identified as a need?	<p>Eisenhower Middle School has 70% Hispanic students and over 60% of the entire student body is designated as economically disadvantaged. According to the National Education Agency (NEA), Hispanic students require schools to intentionally plan, have cultural understanding, community outreach, high leverage instructional practices, and family engagement to maximize student achievement. Through a parent survey, several families expressed the desire to visit a college or university campus. Many of these families had also never attended nor visited a college campus previously. Understanding the vital role families play in shaping students' major life decisions, such as college, coupled with the large body of research supporting these types of family engagement activities, the need for a college visit was identified</p>
11. Describe the implementation.	<p>Rachel Hicks, Eisenhower's family specialist, collaborated with Texas A&amp;M-San Antonio Assistant Professor, Karen Kohler, to reserve a date and secure campus tour guides. Du parents learned the history of how this Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) came to be part San Antonio. Parents were guided through the dorms, classrooms, grounds, library, and many traditions that make life as a Jaguar so unique. The tour guides were first generation students who were transparent as they shared the struggles, they overcame to achieve t college education. They also told the families that their parents played a major part in the well in school. They encouraged the parents to continue supporting their children's educ to touring, Dr. Kohler, a former NEISD family specialist who knew firsthand the importanc shared the plans of the college visit with the Dean of Education and Human Developmer Sheperis. Desiring to make the parents visit extra memorable, Dr. Sheperis surprised the providing lunch at one of the student's frequented lunch spots-The Marketplace. Entering can be scary, but the parents seemed to fit right in. University President, Dr. Matson, sto Marketplace for a brief visit with the parents. Stepping foot on a college campus can be i the TAMUSA faculty, students, and staff offered a warm welcome making the trip an unf experience. This is the first, but definitely not the last university campus tour.</p>
12. Who was involved in the planning & implementation?	<p>Primary Planner - Mrs. Rachel Hicks, Eisenhower Middle School - Family Specialist. Mrs. Hicks was the liaison between the school, families, and university faculty. She also secured transportation that was provided by North East Independent School District</p>

<p>n? What was their role?</p>	<p>(NEISD) and paid for by local school monies at Eisenhower. Mrs. Hicks recruited the families to attend, had families sign in, and sign permission slips.  Collaborator – Dr. Karen Kohler, TAMUSA, Assistant Professor. Dr. Kohler collaborated with Mrs. Hicks to ensure the campus visit was successful. She contacted student liaisons to conduct bilingual campus tours. In addition, she enlisted the support of the Dean of the College of Education and Human Development to pay for lunch for all families who attended the tour.  Supporter – Mr. John Smith, Eisenhower Middle School – Principal. Mr. Smith funded the transportation request and supported the need for families to participate in a university campus tour.</p>
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**Evaluating Effectiveness of Practice**

<p>13. How does this promising practice link to increased student outcomes?</p>	<p>Having parents visit a college campus led to family conversations about a college education. Many of the parents believed that college preparation began during the high school years. However, parents discovered that planting the seed for a college education begins in the early years and continues through high school. Today, middle schools offer high school credit and AP courses. Parents can start today to pave the road to a college education.</p>
<p>14. How did you evaluate the practice and who was involved in the evaluation process? What was your measurable goal?</p>	<p>For documentation purposes parents were asked to sign in. Upon returning to campus the parents completed a post survey. The survey data showed parents increased understanding of the requirements for college admission. Parents learned of the many resources available who help with college and financial aid applications.</p>
<p>15. What did you learn from the evaluation? What advice would you offer to someone wanting to implement the practice?</p>	<p>I was reminded that all parents whether formally educated or not, need help with the college preparation process. Parents want to help their children, but many do not know where to begin. Thus, why it is vital that schools continue empowering parents by providing opportunities that instill confidence by increasing knowledge.</p>
<p>16. Identify the most important factors and conditions necessary for the success of the practice.</p>	<p>Respect for diversity plays an important part in the success of this practice. Being aware that a parent's fear of the unknown often keeps them from taking part in activities. However, providing knowledge prior to the college visit will help put them at ease. Advertising, recruiting families, and providing transportation to and from the university were key factors in ensuring its success.</p>

**Sharing the Benefits**

17. Recommendations for other schools:	Reach out to university student engagement centers. Each university has a division devoted to recruiting and providing campus tours. They are happy to collaborate and help coordinate a wonderful college campus experience. Ensure that the campus tour guides are bilingual Research universities that align with similar demographics of the student population attending the K-12 school
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**Other Information**

18. Include other information you would like to share: pictures, videos, attachments, references, and/or links.	Include visual aids/materials/information that helps to better understand the practice. (limit pictures to 10 or less & no more than 2 videos) Pictures need to reflect activity.  <b><u>EACH PICTURE, VIDEO OR ATTACHMENT MUST HAVE YOUR DISTRICT, CAMPUS AND PRACTICE NAME CLEARLY MARKED!</u></b>
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**Special Considerations**

19. How does your practice align with the TEA Strategic Priorities?	The practice aligns to TEA Strategic Priorities -Connect High School to Career and College The visit to the university created an awareness in parents that instilled a desire to assist their children prepare for a college education. Parents can prepare their child by sending them to school ready to learn, increasing communication with their child’s teacher, assisting their child with school assignments, ask questions when unsure and setting clear expectations. Parents can continue to encourage and support their child until they witness them graduate from college. <a href="https://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Welcome_and_Overview/TEA_Strategic_Plan/">https://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Welcome_and_Overview/TEA_Strategic_Plan/</a>
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20. Is the principal or leader of the organization aware that you have submitted this practice?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  (double click beside “X” to sign)  Recoverable Signature  X Rachel Hicks - Family Speci... _____ Signature of person submitting application  Signed by: rhicks1@neisd.net  Recoverable Signature  X John Smith - Principal _____ Signature of administrator or leader  Signed by: rhicks1@neisd.net <b>Application will not be accepted without signatures</b>
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