

Essence Preparatory Public School

Family Engagement Plan

Building Strong Families, Strong Scholars, and Strong Communities



“The best year yet!”

Essence Preparatory Public School

At Essence Prep, we believe that when families are engaged, students thrive. Our mission is to empower not only our scholars but also their families by providing opportunities for leadership, collaboration, and support. By working closely with teachers, administrators, staff, and our PTSA, we aim to create a learning community that values every family's strengths and contributions.

Our Approach

We see families as partners in the educational journey. Parents and caregivers are their children's first teachers, and we want to build bridges between the living room and the classroom. Through programs, events, and resources, Essence Prep provides families with meaningful ways to engage in their child's learning and in our school culture.

Family Leadership & PTSA Involvement

The Essence Prep PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) serves as the heart of our family engagement efforts. Families work hand-in-hand with school staff to:

- Plan school-wide events that celebrate culture, community, and academic success.
- Serve as an advisory voice on curriculum and extracurricular activities.
- Join working committees with specific focus areas such as literacy, health & wellness, and parent-to-parent support.

PTSA events—such as family nights, fundraisers, and volunteer projects—allow families to take on leadership roles while strengthening our school community.

Signature Programs & Engagement Opportunities

RISE Academy After-School Program: Provides daily academic and enrichment support for scholars, while giving families peace of mind knowing their children are engaged in safe, structured activities.

Beats with Brown – A monthly community dialogue with our school leader, designed to give families a voice in decision-making, ask questions, and stay connected to school priorities.

Family Literacy & Academic Nights – Families engage in hands-on activities to support reading, math, and college readiness at home.

Cultural & Community Celebrations – Events such as Grandparents' Day, holiday programs, and cultural showcases invite families to celebrate identity and heritage while strengthening community bonds.

Parent Ambassador Program – A network of family leaders who welcome new families, model engagement, and serve as advocates for Essence Prep in the broader community.

Support Services for Families

Essence Prep is committed to supporting the whole family, not just the student. Through school-based initiatives and community partnerships, families have access to:

Counseling & Wellness Resources – for both students and parents navigating challenges such as grief, divorce, or stress.

Food & Nutrition Support – connections to the San Antonio Food Bank and other programs that help address food insecurity.

Utility & Housing Referrals – guidance for families experiencing housing instability or financial hardship.

Community Partnerships – collaborations with local organizations to provide workshops, health resources, and leadership development.

Our Commitment

Family engagement at Essence Prep is more than an event—it is an ongoing partnership. We are dedicated to equipping families with the tools, knowledge, and support they need to help their scholars succeed not only during their time at Essence Prep, but for life.

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