

By: Talarico

H.B. No. 2106

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the implementation of student and family engagement plans by school districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.927 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.927. STUDENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLANS. (a) Each school district shall develop and implement a student and family engagement plan for students in each grade level from prekindergarten through grade 12 to assist the district in:

(1) achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward public education;

(2) strengthening relationships between students, families, district administrators, and teachers;

(3) creating positive outcomes by increasing positive student engagement and developing the student's sense of connection to the student's learning environment, including by ensuring that the student is:

(A) actively involved in the student's academic achievement; and

(B) positively motivated to attend school regularly and graduate;

(4) creating opportunities for parents to engage with and be directly involved in their child's education; and

1 (5) creating a communal campus environment that
2 includes students, families, teachers, district staff, and
3 community-based organizations that provide resources to students
4 for social-emotional and academic development.

5 (b) The student and family engagement plans must be based on
6 student and parent engagement strategies that:

7 (1) are evidence-based and supported by empirical
8 research;

9 (2) establish a system of communication, updated
10 annually based on a district assessment of parent and communication
11 needs, between students, families, and school districts that
12 includes mailed, electronic, and virtual communications, such as
13 phone calls, text messaging, virtual conferences, and e-mail;

14 (3) provide support for students who are attending
15 school in-person or virtually through counselors, teachers, and
16 district staff;

17 (4) use diagnostic tools to evaluate the emotional,
18 behavioral, and cognitive engagement of students and communicate
19 the results to the family of the student;

20 (5) include regular meetings with interested persons,
21 including community-based organizations, throughout the school
22 year regarding the development and implementation of the engagement
23 plans;

24 (6) are proven to demonstrate significant positive
25 short-term and long-term outcomes for early childhood, elementary,
26 middle school, and high school education;

27 (7) include programs and interventions that engage a

1 family in supporting a student's learning at home;

2 (8) include programming that is accessible by students
3 and families who are bilingual or emergent bilingual;

4 (9) are proven to demonstrate solutions that build
5 long-lasting generational relationships between school districts
6 and families; and

7 (10) support virtual or remote learning by promoting
8 digital communication and literacy and by ensuring that students
9 have access to devices and broadband Internet.

10 (c) Each school district shall ensure that student and
11 family engagement plans are consistent with the public education
12 mission and objectives described by Section 4.001 and accessible to
13 students who are educationally disadvantaged.

14 (d) In developing student and family engagement plans, a
15 school district must collaborate with campus leaders, educators,
16 teachers, families, and students at all grade levels to include in
17 the student and family engagement plans the strategies described by
18 Subsection (b). A school district must provide for a student at the
19 middle or high school level to be directly involved in developing
20 student engagement plans.

21 (e) The agency shall offer administrative support and
22 resources to assist school districts with developing and
23 implementing student and family engagement plans as provided by
24 this section.

25 (f) Not later than the 30th instructional day following the
26 first day of school, each school district shall post the student and
27 family engagement plans on the district's Internet website.

1 (g) The agency shall collaborate with other state agencies
2 to coordinate and streamline the process for accessing information,
3 support, and resources included in a school district's family
4 engagement plan.

5 (h) A parent-teacher organization or community-based
6 organization may submit:

7 (1) to the agency recommendations regarding the
8 establishment of family engagement strategies; and

9 (2) to a school district recommendations regarding the
10 development of a student and family engagement plan.

11 (i) The agency, in establishing family engagement
12 strategies, or a school district, in establishing a student and
13 family engagement plan, shall consider any recommendations
14 submitted under Subsection (h).

15 (j) Each school district shall review the student and family
16 engagement plans annually and update the plans at least once every
17 two years.

18 SECTION 2. Section 29.934(d), Education Code, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (d) To be designated as a resource campus, the campus must:

21 (1) implement a targeted improvement plan as described
22 by Chapter 39A and establish a school community partnership team;

23 (2) adopt an accelerated campus excellence turnaround
24 plan as provided by Section 39A.105(b) except that a classroom
25 teacher who satisfies the requirements for demonstrated
26 instructional effectiveness under Section 39A.105(b)(3) must also
27 hold a current designation assigned under Section 21.3521;

1 (3) be in a school district that has adopted an
2 approved local optional teacher designation system under Section
3 [21.3521](#);

4 (4) satisfy certain staff criteria by:

5 (A) requiring a principal or teacher employed at
6 the campus before the designation to apply for a position to
7 continue at the campus;

8 (B) employing only teachers who have at least
9 three years of teaching experience;

10 (C) employing at least one school counselor for
11 every 300 students; and

12 (D) employing at least one appropriately
13 licensed professional to assist with the social and emotional needs
14 of students and staff, who must be a:

15 (i) family and community liaison;

16 (ii) clinical social worker;

17 (iii) specialist in school psychology; or

18 (iv) professional counselor;

19 (5) implement a positive behavior program as provided
20 by Section [37.0013](#);

21 (6) implement a student and family engagement plan as
22 described by Section [29.927](#) [~~29.168~~];

23 (7) develop and implement a plan to use high quality
24 instructional materials;

25 (8) if the campus is an elementary campus, operate the
26 campus for a school year that qualifies for funding under Section
27 [48.0051](#); and

1 (9) annually submit to the commissioner data and
2 information required by the commissioner to assess fidelity of
3 implementation.

4 SECTION 3. Section [29.168](#), Education Code, is repealed.

5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.