

STMP Family and Community

Engagement Policy 2026

July 1, 2026

The quality of program-family and program-staff interactions is important.

Our preschool ensures the quality of program-family and program-staff interactions by fostering meaningful relationships with all our families. We greet everyone in the mornings and upon returning at the end of the day and genuinely want to know how they are doing. We get to know our families and learn about their family culture; what they enjoy doing, what they feel is important for their children, what their goals are for their children, what the parents do for work, for fun, before kids etc. We get to know each of our families and build a community here at STMP. We truly want to understand your children and support them in the ways that will help them be successful here and, in the future, within school and in life in general. We have “Getting to Know You” sheets we ask families to complete at Open House, so we can begin to know your child better. What their likes and dislikes are, their strengths, weaknesses, hopes and fears. We want their time in our program to be foundational for the rest of their lives. To develop a love of learning, of themselves, and of others.

Involving families in the transition of their children into and out of the Preschool Program, including between classrooms within the Preschool Program and into Kindergarten

Our preschool involves families in the transition of their children into and out of the Preschool Program, including between classrooms within the Preschool Program and into kindergarten by offering extensive guided tours of our school prior to enrollment so families can see the school, learning more about our programs and philosophies and ask any questions they have before enrolling. Upon registration, families receive the STMP Parent Handbook for review before signing our policies and waivers. We send out multiple mid-summer Back to School communications, via email and ProCare, our preschool software management and hub for all things STMP. We host Open Houses the day before school starts, so families and kiddos have an opportunity to meet their teachers and see their classrooms. This is one opportunity where families will receive back to school information and details pertaining to their classroom and the school. We host a “Kindergarten Information” night in October so families can learn all about the kindergarten registration process and more. We conduct fall and spring assessments and offer parent-teacher conferences to discuss these assessments. We also are open to

sitting down and talking with parents at any time to discuss any joys or concerns, support with challenges etc. If we have something we want to talk with families about, we'll touch base with families to communicate early before a behavior for example, has been going on and to connect with families on the best way to support their child within the classroom and school setting.

Engaging families and community partners in decision-making regarding the preschool provider's operations

- Our preschool partners with families and the community to inform decision-making about program operations by hosting community conversations to get community input and involvement
- Providing a handbook (in multiple languages as needed) to all families at the beginning of the school year that contains detailed information on program policies and procedures, including contact information for key staff members

Engaging families around goals which inform the preschool provider's interactions and instruction with children, including multilingual learners

- Our preschool engages and collaborates with families around goals that inform our interactions and instruction with children by co-developing goals with families through individual conferences with each family to set goals for their child's development and learning
- Co-developing individualized learning plans for children that are informed by, shared, and discussed with families
- Recognizing the rich and varied cultural wealth, knowledge, and skills of multilingual learners and developing content inclusive of multiple cultures of participating families
- Employing bilingual/multilingual staff
- Providing support to dual and multilingual learners through appropriate dual language instruction, strategies, and scaffolding
- Putting learning in context for children so they can connect a topic to their current lives or communities

Seeking input from participating families on priorities, interests, home routines, and cultural and social practices

Our preschool seeks input from participating families on priorities, interests, home routines, and cultural and social practices by

- Incorporating questions about language needs and languages spoken in the home in our intake paperwork and processes
- Hosting in-person meetings with families

- Hosting family events

The usage of interpreters or other language resources to effectively communicate with families in their home language

- Our preschool identifies language needs of the children and families we serve by incorporating questions about language needs and languages spoken in the home in our intake paperwork and processes
 - Hosting in-person meetings with families
 - Hosting family events
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- We use various effective communication methods including:
 - Parent newsletters
 - Social media
 - Family communication applications on smart devices
 - In-Person conversations
 - Hosting program events/meetings
 - Parent-teacher conferences

We communicate in languages spoken by participating families by

- Employing bilingual/multilingual staff
- Working alongside the UPK team to access interpreters and translators

CDEC Annual Family Survey

There is an annual family survey administered by the CDEC. The inaugural survey will occur in the spring/summer of 2027.