

Parent Involvement for High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant

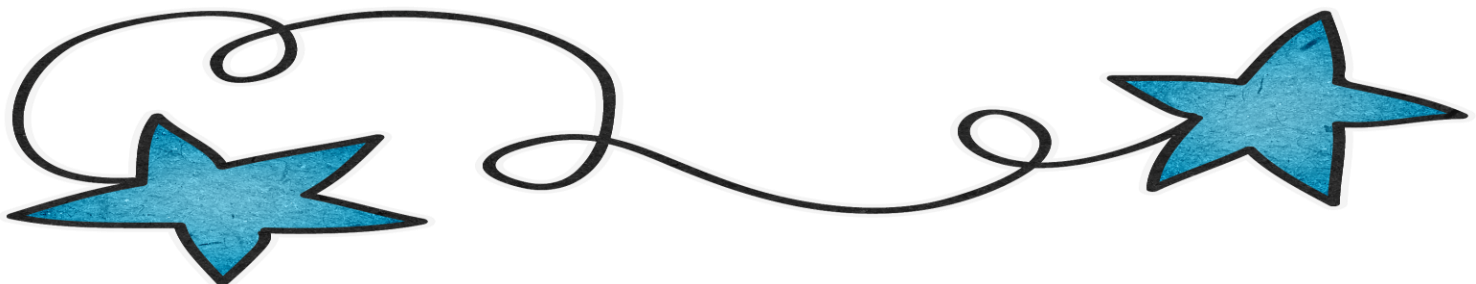
Lackland Independent School District
Lackland Elementary School
2016-2017



Strategies Used to Facilitates Family-to-Family Support

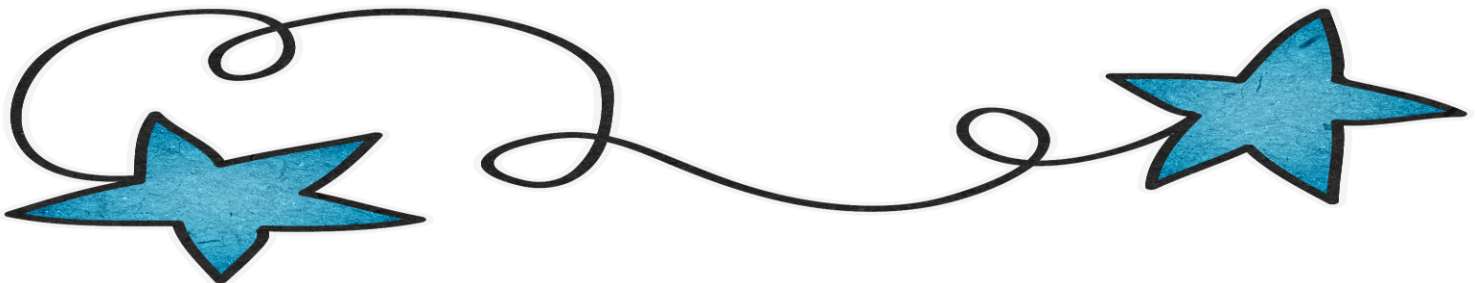
- **Let's Talk – College and Career Readiness** Over 200 kindergarten – twelfth-grade students, parents, and community members were prompted to gather at Lackland ISD on Thursday, February 16, 2017, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. for an opportunity to talk about college and career readiness. Lackland ISD's College and Career Readiness Team presented the first in a series of Let's Talk opportunities. The purpose of these events is to provide an open venue to exchange ideas, share information, and create a stronger awareness about available resources, supports, and tools to engage with to ensure *Future Readiness*. This event is touted as a tremendous success. Its success is attributed to effective planning by the College and Career Readiness Team, the tremendous support of community partners, dedicated volunteer support, and generous donations. Community partners including the Department of Defense Education Activity, The Air Force Military Child Education Organization and School Liaisons, The University of Texas at San Antonio's (UTSA) P-20 Initiatives, UTSA's Center for Military Families, The Military Child Education Coalition, and Tutor.com fully engaged in this event by providing information sessions, workshops, and resources to support the development of successful pathways towards bright futures. Topics included Financial Aid 101, Book Reading, Career Exploration, Tutor.com, College Application / Post 9-11 GI Bill, Navigating College Board, Dual Credit, and Summer Opportunities. Blue Star Families provided 150 free books for participant enjoyment. Financial support from the Lackland Spouses' Club provided snacks and prizes for participants. This was truly an amazing event. Lackland ISD's College and Career Readiness Team appreciates the engagement of participants to include parents, students, Board President, Mr. Brian Miller, Board Secretary, Dr. Laura Munro, and Board Member Mr. Clifford Dietert. Further, the amazing efforts of internal volunteers to include teachers and staff increased our ability to achieve levels of success for which we are truly grateful. The next *Let's Talk* opportunity will address *Getting Hired* and will be held on March 30, 2017, from 4-6 p.m.
- **AVID – (Advancement Via Individual Determination)** AVID is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the assessment gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities. AVID teaches skills and behaviors for academic success and provides intensive support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships. AVID creates a positive peer group for students and develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap, making college access and success available to all students.

- **PTSO** – Lackland Independent School District PTSO is an independent organization local to the district that serves both Lackland Elementary and Stacey Jr/Sr. High. It was chartered in this manner so that the funds raised go back into both schools. All the funds raised by PTSO are used to supplement school events, such as: graduation, prom, student planners, breakfast/snacks during STARR testing, Field Day, and Spring Carnival
- **Conscious Discipline** - Conscious Discipline is an emotional intelligence program that teaches children to respond, rather than react during life events. Everyday life events are used as teachable moments and guide children to develop self-control, utilize tools for conflict resolution, boost self-esteem, foster positive relationships and social skills. Conscious Discipline promotes a positive relationship-based community in the classroom. Students learn through The 7 Basic Skills of Discipline, cultivating higher-order thinking skills through "Brain Smart" activities, class meetings and creating a "School Family".



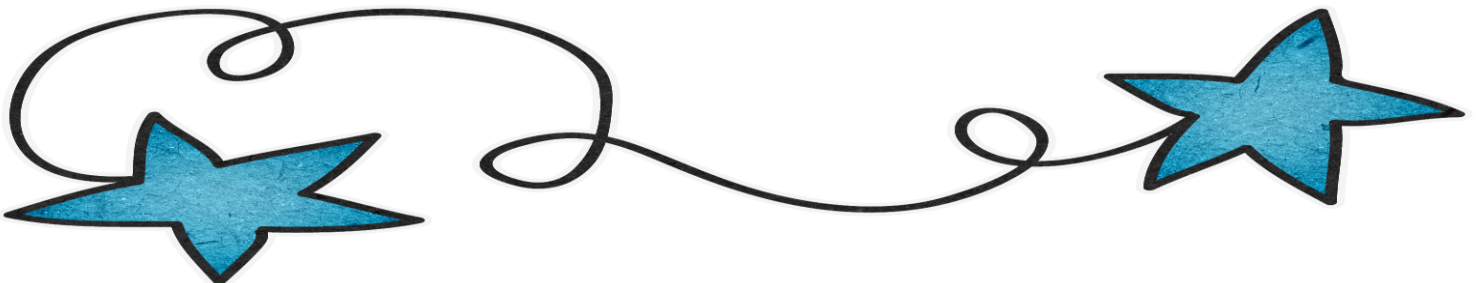
Community Resources

- Let's Talk (see above)
- We build strategic partnerships and leverage community resources by taking students on field trips, such as the community fire station. We also have a dental health day where members of the community come into school and teach students about dental hygiene.
- Our Special Education department provides parents with children with disabilities information for free parenting classes through Any Baby Can and Region 20. Our school counselors also provide different programs to our military children, such as Hearts Apart, Mentors, guidance lessons, and teach social skills to individual or group of students when necessary. Hearts Apart is for students who have a family member deployed or who have a temporary duty assignment. These students are provided with extra support provided by the school counselors. Our Mentor program will match students who are recommended by a teacher or parent with a civilian or active member role model who will spend time with the student. Counselors will go into the classroom and provide lessons to students on an as needed basis, reflecting on skills like personal space. In addition we teach students social skills and good decision making skills through Bully Prevention Week and Red Ribbon Week.
- We also have a Military Student Transition Consultant, Amy Carrasco, who is responsible for helping families and students through transitions, such as before a family moves to a different duty location. In addition our School Liaison, Lori Phipps, helps close the gap between home and school by providing information on district activities and procedures. Our School Board Liaison, Lt. Col. Sledge, reports to the school board about community concerns/needs. Our school also provides students who need emotional support through Military Family and Family Life Counselor Program (MFLC). The following information is available on <http://www.realwarriors.net/family/change/MFLC.php>:
- Non-medical counseling is available through the MFLC program and through Military OneSource. These programs offer trained, licensed professional counselors for service members and their families. Both programs strive to promote a culture that encourages service members and families to seek assistance when coping with the concerns of daily life, and to eliminate barriers that service members may feel prevent them from reaching out for help.



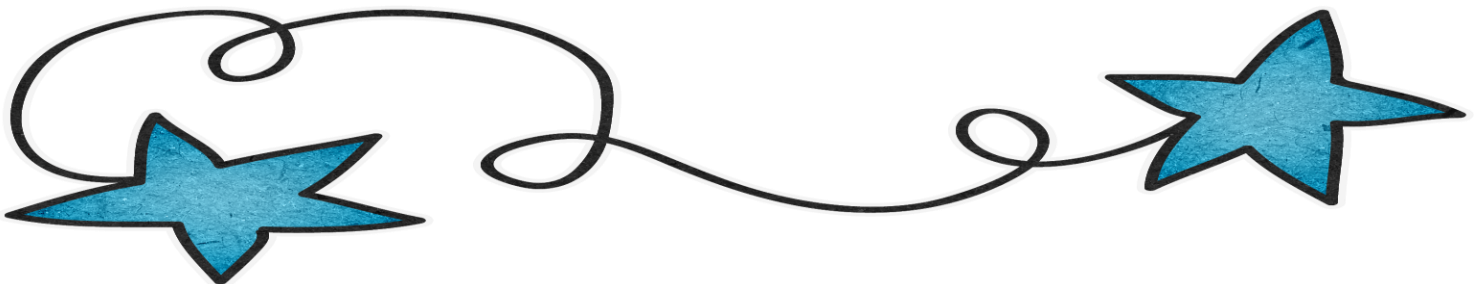
Family Participation in Decision-Making

- Let's Talk (see above)
- LISD school board is a public link to our school. The education of our students is the main item on the school board's agenda. The school board meets monthly and always encourages family and teacher/staff involvement.
- Throughout every school year Lackland ISD will provide opportunities to our families' and community to meet and discuss topics that will enhance the quality of education in our district, such as, The District of Innovation of Public Hearing opportunity. The Lackland Independent School District's District Education Improvement Council (DEIC) recently signed a petition (with a majority vote) to begin the process of becoming a District of Innovation (DOI). The petition only allows the district to start the process which is very detailed and must be followed according to Texas Education Agency guidelines.
- Through Parent/Teacher conferences teachers will encourage input from their students' parents/ guardians to ensure student success. Our teachers and parents will work as a team to establish a school family to support the growth of each individual student. A variety of other resources are used by each teacher to inform and raise participation among families like Class Dojo, Remind, Bloomz, email, teacher websites, etc.



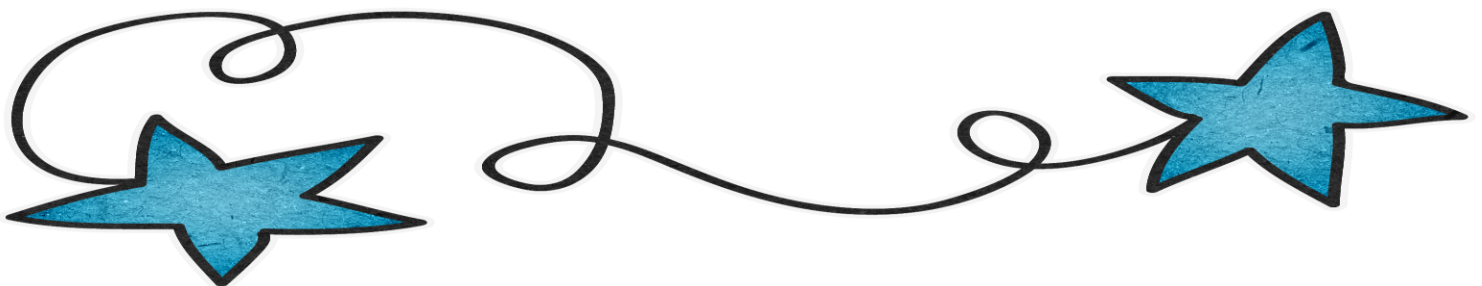
Tools Used to Enhance an Extend Learning

- Let's Talk (see above)
- **Digital Resources** - The Lackland Elementary Media Center provided complimentary digital resources, such as: MackinVIA, BrainPop, and Tumblebooks
- **Conscious Discipline Resources**
- **Meet the Teacher** - Parents are approached as equal partners in their child's education while welcoming students to the classroom.
- **Communication** - Daily/Weekly Communication with parent through Bloomz/Remind101 apps, weekly newsletters and Class Dojos
- **Community Activities** - LISD provides a Cowboy Breakfast and a Spring Festival
- **Home Visits** - The Special Education Department at LISD provides at home parent training for autistic students.



Staff Development Used to Support Families

- Professional development will be provided through MFLC on how staff can support family engagement
- Our MSTC (Military Student Transition Consultant) will provide staff development specific to military families (reintegration, deployment and transitioning)



Family Engagement

- **Informal/Formal PreK Assessments** - Data obtained from informal and formal assessments is used to drive our instruction and is shared with parents during conferences twice a year.
- **CLI Engage** - Data is used for instruction and is digitally shared with parents.

