

Strong Beginnings

Quick Start Guide Section 7: Family Engagement

The Child and Family Supports section 7A is not part of GSRP and only a requirement for Strong Beginnings. It is recommended that this section be read in full in the Strong Beginnings Pilot Implementation Manual to develop a better understanding of requirements.

What is the same?	What is new or different?
Parent involvement philosophy and policies are mostly the same.	Teachers and/Family Liaisons may support parent involvement at group or parent meetings.
The structure of local and ISD wide Family Participation Groups, Data Analysis Teams, GSC Parent Coalition representation and the ISD wide School Readiness Advisory Committee is mostly the same.	Local advisory committees may be separate for Strong Beginnings or combined with representation from each program. Representation on the Parent Coalition and School Readiness Advisory Committee should be proportional to the number of children enrolled in each program.
N/A	Family Liaisons should be represented on each of the committees.
Family Contact policies are mostly the same.	Family Liaisons and teachers can work together with either taking the lead for referrals for children suspected of having special needs. This should be done in accordance with the roles and responsibilities form they complete under the guidance of the ECS each fall.
N/A	Family Liaisons should take the lead on making referrals for needed family services, communicating appropriately with teaching staff.
Home Visit guidelines are mostly the same.	One member of the teaching staff and the Family Liaison should, if possible complete the home visit together.

What is the same?	What is new or different?
N/A	The role of the Family Liaison should be discussed at the initial home visit and the date of the first meeting should be agreed upon if possible.
Parent teacher conference guidelines are mostly the same.	Family Liaisons should participate in the conferences appropriately whether just to say hello or be included in a discussion about needed child supports.