

Community Transition Team

Who: Ready schools
Ready families
+ Ready communities
= Ready kids

A successful team usually encompasses representatives from all three groups!

Why:

- A. *School faculty & staff*
 1. Work with, see, and teach the children everyday
 2. Have knowledge about child development
 3. Have knowledge about the school system and enrollment
- B. *Parents*
 1. Know their children better than anyone else
 2. Know how families and parents feel
 3. Know what families would come out to and enjoy
- C. *Community members*
 1. Impact children they encounter daily
 2. Provide support, resources and information to families

What:

- A. Develop a *yearlong* plan for transition to engage all age-appropriate children and their parents well before day one
- B. Use local data to understand a community's kindergarten enrollment patterns and challenge
- C. Organizes and publicizes transition events that match the community's interests and needs
- D. Engage family and community partners in the school's success
- E. Supports and encourages teachers
- F. Help ensure a welcome kindergarten experience for all children and families

Team Coordinator Role

- Who:** Team coordinator arranges and coordinates the meetings
Research shows “ideal” coordinator comes *from the school*
- What:**
- A. Coordinating the group
 - B. Process of transition practices
 - 1. Learning
 - 2. Planning
 - 3. Implementing
 - 4. Evaluating
 - B. For information on what learning, planning, implementing & evaluating mean, see page 28
 - C. See Resources for activities to assess your personality and those in your group to identify strengths and styles of communication
- When:**
- A. Before the first day of kindergarten
 - B. Day 1
 - C. Throughout the year
 - D. For information on when different activities should take place, see pages 11-14

Who Makes Up the Team?

Who: Identify and bring together all who would have a stake or role in developing a transition plan

1. Invite all relevant stakeholders
 - a. Who will be affected by the work of the team?
 - b. Who will be responsible for implementing the transition plan?
2. Examples include

Why: Team members must be representative of the community

1. Membership should be broadly diverse
2. Helps team to stay in touch with the community's needs, values, and strengths
3. Enables team to develop a plan that is truly responsive to local needs
4. Creates "buy-in"

Examples:

- A. Early Childhood Education staff and administrators
 1. Formal (registered day care facilities)
 2. Informal (child care in a person's home)
- B. Kindergarten staff and administrators
- C. Parents, guardians, grandparents, and other family members
- D. Other community agencies and programs
 1. Family support
 2. Community leaders
 3. Healthcare providers
 4. Churches
 5. Education groups
- E. Interested Community Leaders

How: Establish your team by creating an Eco-Map (see following pages)

