Family and Community Engagement in the Transition to Kindergarten

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Schools Alone Cannot Meet Students Needs
Research: Families Matter for Children’s Outcomes

- Improved school readiness
- Higher student achievement
- Better social skills and behavior
- Increased likelihood of high school graduation

Family Engagement Guiding Principles

1. Family engagement is a shared responsibility.
2. Family engagement happens across settings.
3. Family engagement is continuous over time.
Creating Family Engagement Pathways

- Home Visiting Programs
- Early Childhood Classes
- Afterschool Programs
- "STEM courses"
- "College readiness & preparation courses"
- "Teen clubs"

Why Family Engagement Matters in the Transition to School: Four Important Things

- Transitions are a matter of equity.
- Smooth transitions make a difference.
- Families play a key role.
- Relationships among settings are essential.
Where We Are Now, Where Are We Going?

From

- School readiness oriented
- Institutions centered
- Siloed

To

- Focus beyond curriculum
- User/Human-Centered
- Integrated

Examples
Human-Centered Design Thinking Process

A process used to create new solutions (i.e. products, services, processes).

• Gain empathy
• Define the problem
• Ideate
• Prototype
• Get feedback
Your Design Challenge

Using existing resources, design a prototype that addresses how early childhood programs, schools, and anywhere, anytime learning spaces can promote family engagement during the transition to kindergarten.

Our Design Thinking Approach*

- Brainstorm
- Choose one
- Design a prototype
- Present

*Adapted from IDEO
Make Your Pitch

Why would a school leader support your new transition idea/prototype?

How Might We:
- Amp up the good?
- Remove the bad?
- Question an assumption?
- Identify other resources?
- Create an analogy?
- Break down points of view into pieces?

To Get You Started

*Adapted from d.school.stanford.edu*
Stay in Touch

Transition Resources
www.hfrp.org/transition

FINE Newsletter
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Today's PPE Resources
www.hfrp.org/july2016

IDEO and Design Thinking Resources

Books

Articles

Free Guides

Ideo.com

Method Cards
Design Thinking Empathy Map

What does the **THINK AND FEEL**?
- what really counts
- major preoccupations
- worries & aspirations

What does the **HEAR**?
- what friends say
- what boss says
- what influencers say

What does the **SEE**?
- environment
- friends
- what the market offers

What does the **SAY AND DO**?
- attitudes in public
- appearance
- behavior toward others

PAIN
- fears
- frustrations
- obstacles

GAIN
- wants/needs
- measures of success
- obstacles