

Session Objectives

At the end of this presentation, you should be able to:

- Determine how strategies, such as shared professional development, can help build successful transition experiences across Head Start programs and receiving schools
- Utilize shared professional development between Head Start programs and receiving schools to support shared expectations about kindergarten readiness
- Use joint professional development efforts to build relationships between all receiving schools including Head Start programs

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4

Session Agenda

Here's what we're doing today:

- 1. Defining transition
- 2. Sharing recommended practices
- 3. Discussing transition strategies
- 4. Exploring elements for alignment
- 5. Discussing Shared Professional Development
- 6. Sharing resources

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5

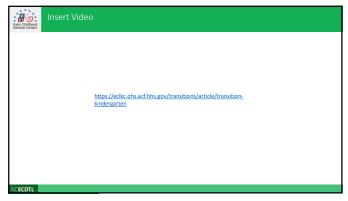
Early Childhood

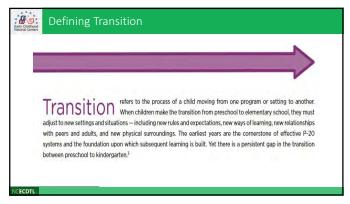
Insert Poll

Question: Focus on transition begins when the child enters a preschool setting?

True False

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Recommended Practices for Families:



- Preparing families for transitions
- Providing families with information in a variety of ways, and in a method in which they can understand (home language)
- Sharing of all the potential service options that are available for children
- For children with identified special needs, encourage families to invite service providers to IEP/IFSP team meetings

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11



Recommended Practices for Community Engagement



- Provide resources to support self-sufficiency and individualized needs
- At the community level, building awareness and partnerships
- Developing and maintaining Interagency Agreements

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Five Tips to Support Receiving School Readiness:

- Identify your receiving schools
- · Find out what they expect
- · Attend a School Board meeting
- Attend a PTA meeting, meet the PTA board members
- Identify something that your Head Start program has that could benefit the school



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13



14





Examples of Child and Family Strategies

- Field Trips- Children visit the kindergarten classroom
- Guest Speakers- Kindergarten teacher and/or Principal visits to the preschool classroom
- Head Start teacher home visits
- Workshops and networking for parents of young children
- Attendance at schoolwide events for families and children
- Kindergarten orientation sessions before school starts
- Parent-child learning programs held in receiving schools



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16



Examples of Program-Level Transition Planning Strategies



Use common transition forms

Creation of transition teams and transition liaisons

Joint professional development

Shared data

Teacher-to-teacher conferences

17



Insert Poll·

The program that I support uses the following strategies to support effective transitions:

- Use of common transition forms across multiple programs and schools
- $\bullet\,\,$ Creation of transition teams and transition liaisons in districts and schools
- Joint professional development for early education and early-grades teachers
- Shared data and common data points across systems
- Teacher-to-Teacher conferences

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19



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20

Shared Professional Development & Alignment



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Transition Connection:

Child-School

To foster children's familiarity with the classroom setting and people $% \left\{ \left(1\right) \right\} =\left\{ \left(1\right) \right$

Family-School

To foster family collaboration and engagement with the school $% \left\{ 1,2,\ldots ,n\right\}$

Program-School

To provide children with stable, high quality classroom experiences

Community-School

To facilitate the transition process within the community

23

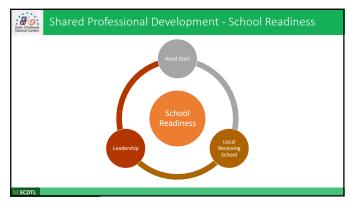


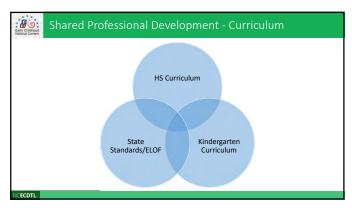
Transition Strategies to Support Alignment

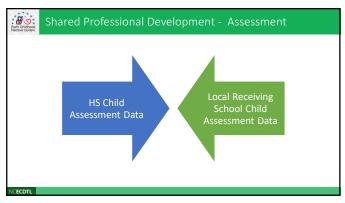
Alignment between the preschool and kindergarten settings:

- School readiness expectations (and teacher beliefs)
- Curriculum
- Child assessment
- Family support and engagement
- Other areas of potential alignment?

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29



Alignment Strategies – What does the research say?

Transition practices that center on individual children's strengths and needs are particularly promising strategies:

- Sharing data and information about children's development, interests, and approaches to learning
- Sharing information about curricula and learning experiences
- Sharing information about instructional objectives and strategies

What other strategies can support greater alignment for children and families?

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Contact us at ecdtl@ecetta.info or call (toll-free) 1-844-261-3752

37



Transition Resources for Staff and Families

Supporting Transitions: Using Child Development as a Guide

• https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/transitions

Early Childhood Transitions: Supporting Children and Families

- $\bullet \quad \underline{https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/early-childhood-transitions.pdf}$
- Supporting Transitions: Early Educators Partnering with Families

• https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/supporting-transitions-brief-two.pdf
Effective Early Childhood Transitions: A Guide for Transitions at Age Three-Early Head Start to Preschool

 https://www.wested.org/resources/effective-early-childhood-transitions-a-guide-fortransition-at-age-three-early-start-to-preschool/

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38



Transition Resources for Staff and Families

A Guide for Georgia Schools on Kindergarten Transition

- https://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Partnerships/Documents/Parent%20Engagement/Building-Cap/Kindergarten%20Transition%20Manual%20for%20Educators.pdf
- Dr. Deborah Bergeron Office of Head Start Director August 2018 Vlog
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/video/transcripts/001799-OHS%20Director-VLOG-Aug-2018.pdf

Transitions and Alignment: From Preschool to Kindergarten-Special Report from the Education Commission of the States

www.ecs.org

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