REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Ohio Heading to Kindergarten Transition Summit

Live Virtual Event via Zoom

Thursday, June 2, 2022
12:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Heading to Kindergarten is focused on building partnerships that support successful transitions to kindergarten. The goal is to provide guidance and resources based on best practices to enhance collaboration between early care and education programs, public schools and community partners as a critical pathway to better child outcomes.

Heading to Kindergarten Summit Goal:
Provide information, resources, and supports to strengthen kindergarten readiness practices and collaboration between early childhood programs, school districts and community partners.

Target Audience:
• Head Start administrators
• Head Start staff
• Elementary administrators
• Kindergarten teachers
• Early Care and Education providers
• Parents and Caretakers
• Community Partners such as Librarians, Pediatricians, Early Intervention providers, etc.

The Summit supports kindergarten transitions by bringing schools and communities together to share resources and best practices. We encourage participants to gather their community’s existing preschool to kindergarten transition team (or create a new one) to attend this event. If you have not yet established a team you are still encouraged to attend and learn more about successful transitions to kindergarten.

This event is supported by the Ohio Head Start Collaboration Grant. There is no fee to attend.
Use this link to Register

Hosted by the Ohio Head Start Association - direct any questions to ohsai@ohsai.org or 937-435-1113.
**Information, Relationships and Alignment**
**Thursday, June 2, 2022**
**12:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

**12:30 – 12:40** Welcome  
*Anita Armstrong, Ed.D., LSW*, Assistant Director - Head Start Collaboration, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education

**12:40 – 1:00** Whole Child Readiness: The Role of Families, Schools, and Community  
*Wendy Grove, Ph.D.*, Director, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education

**Successful Transitions and Effective Collaboration**

**1:00 – 1:35** Understanding Preschool and Kindergarten Alignment: Strategies to Improve the Kindergarten Transition  
*Kelly Purtell, Ph.D.*, The Ohio State University, Crane Center

This session will focus on understanding the impacts of preschool on children’s kindergarten readiness, as well as when these impacts last, and when they do not. In particular, we will discuss the ways in which increasing alignment between preschool and kindergarten can improve children’s transition to kindergarten, and potentially boost the lasting impacts of preschool.

**1:35 – 2:10** Developmentally Appropriate Practice = Play  
*Elizabeth Sailer Agnew, Ed.D.*, Educational Program Specialist, Curriculum and Assessment, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Dept of Education  
*Christina Tomazinis, M.Ed.*, Professional Development Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Dept of Education

In this session, participants will explore play as an intentional teaching strategy for early childhood birth through third grade. Specifically, playful learning experiences in kindergarten that are self-directed and guided that address the whole child help children practice emerging skills in all areas of learning. For example, children can develop large and fine motor skills, explore and ask questions about their world and interact with peers and/or adults while playing. Participants will learn about three key components of play: choice, wonder and delight, and engage in a discussion around connections to actual practice.
2:10 – 2:20  Break

2:20 – 2:55  Reimagining School Readiness
Penelope Shumaker, Librarian, State Library of Ohio
Julia Shaheen, Literacy Manager, Stark County District Library

Explore research-backed resources created by the Bay Area Discovery Museum for library staff to help families prepare their 0-8 year olds for school success. Reimagining School Readiness focuses on key aspects of child development: quality adult-child interactions, social skills, math and science learning, executive functions, stress, and growth mindset. While developed for libraries, these resources are suited to all informal and formal learning environments.

2:55 – 3:30  Successful Transitions from Preschool Special Education to Kindergarten
Cathy Kramer, Early Childhood Consultant, Center for the Young Child, OCALI

Going to kindergarten is an exciting time for children. What strategies make this a positive experience for families? Join this discussion as we talk about the process and strategies to ensure a successful transition for all children. Bring your ideas and questions to share.

3:30 – 3:45  Heading to Kindergarten Cohort 1 Lessons Learned
Catching Up with the Miamisburg STARS
Amy Dobson, Director, Elementary Education, Miamisburg City Schools

3:45 – 4:00  Transition to Kindergarten Resources – Next Steps and Closing Remarks
Anita Armstrong, Ed.D., LSW, Assistant Director - Head Start Collaboration, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education