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**Family Back-to-School Planning Tool**

When school starts there can be lots of changes for your family. This guide is a place to plan for the changes so the start of the school year will be a smooth one.

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| **Things to Plan For** | **Our Family’s Plan** |
| **Registration**   * Do you need to enroll your child with the district or school? Is there a registration deadline? * What forms and immunizations are required? * Is there an orientation? |  |
| **Attendance**   * When is the first day of school? * What time does the school day begin and end? * What is the school’s policy for attending school every day? * How do families let the school know if their child needs to miss school time for sickness or other reasons? |  |
| **Transportation**   * How will your child get to and from school? Who will be available to ensure your child gets ready for school on time? * If you have children in multiple schools, how will this look for your family? |  |
| **Meals**   * Do you plan to pack your child’s lunch? * Will you apply for free and reduced-price school meals? * Do you and your child know how to pay for meals, whether buying at full cost or reduced cost? |  |
| **School Supplies, Technology, and Wi-Fi**   * What backpack and classroom supplies does your child need? * Will your child need access to the internet outside of school? |  |

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| **Supports for Learning**   * Who will help your child with daily school-related needs at home (asking about schoolwork and teacher/peer relationships, organizing backpack materials)? * Does your child have a dedicated space at home to work on schoolwork? * Will you use a homework help center at your local library? * If your child is receiving Special Education supports at school, have you discussed/met with your child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) team? |  |
| **Child Care**   * What options do you have for child care if there is a school closure? |  |
| **Options for Parent Employment**   * Does your employer have flexibility for shift changes if your family schedule requires a change? * Are you familiar with your employer’s   paid leave and/or sick leave policy? |  |
| **Additional Considerations**   * What other assistance do you need from the district/school? * Do you know who your child’s teachers are? When will you meet them? * Who are other staff members (principal, counselor, afterschool teacher) your family might interact with? How can you meet them? * What resources are available for you and your child at the school or in your community? * What are some other ways you and your family can be part of the school community this year, and what do you need to do to make that happen (join a parent organization, attend school meetings/events, respond to communications/surveys sent by the school, discuss school-related things with other parents, or volunteer)? |  |