

**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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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?
 |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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)?
 |  |