



Guide to Getting CONNECTED TO KINDERGARTEN

The best way to learn about your school is first-hand. Whatever you've heard from someone else, make sure you learn more for yourself, so that you and your child are well-prepared and ready for school success. Take the time to visit your neighborhood school, tour the building and ask thoughtful questions of the staff and of other parents.

Some questions you may want to ask are:

- ✓ How are art, technology or music part of the curriculum? How is creativity encouraged when learning core subjects as reading, math, science or history?
- ✓ How do teachers work together to ensure students have successful transitions from one grade to another?
- ✓ How does the school/teacher target instruction to challenge individual students?
- ✓ How do students learn from each other? How is diversity valued in the school?
- ✓ How does the principal interact with students?
- ✓ How does the school build a sense of community among students?



✓ What makes students feel safe in class? On the playground?

✓ What opportunities do the teachers have for professional development (learning from master teachers, deepening their own content knowledge, studying or doing research on best teaching practices, etc.)?

✓ How does this school welcome parents/guardians? What specific ways can I be engaged in my child's education? How can I connect with teachers and with other parents/guardians?

✓ What role do volunteers and community partners play in this school?

✓ What school events can my family attend to learn more about the school community before my child starts school and to participate in that community once my child is enrolled?

✓ What after-school programs and extracurricular teams or activities are available at the school?

✓ Is there before- and after-school childcare on-site?
See other side for helpful resources.