

# Students/Families Ask, Schools Answer Facilitator's Guide

## Audience

- *Future Kindergarteners Ask, Kindergarten Answers* – for families of future kindergarten students
- *5<sup>th</sup> Graders Ask, Middle School Answers* – for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students
- *Families of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Ask, Middle School Answers* – for families of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students
- *8<sup>th</sup> Graders Ask, High School Answers* – for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
- *Families of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Ask, High School Answers* – for families of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students

## Purpose

These forms provide an organized way to collect questions students and/or families have about transitioning to kindergarten, middle school or high school.

## Logistics

### Distribution Options for Kindergarten Families

- Make forms available at Kindergarten Round-Up. While students are being screened, families can complete the form questions.
- Forms can be used at the beginning of the year.

### Develop a partnership with the Middle School/High School

- Contact the Middle/High School counselor's office and speak to them about the proposed project. Ask if this could be a part of their elementary school visit.
- Partner with core curriculum teachers. All students will be taking these subjects and may have questions.
- Encourage parent organizations to partner by collecting questions, holding a joint meeting, and posting answered questions in correspondence, newsletters, and/or on websites.

### Distribution Options for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

- The form can be distributed by a counselor who visits the school during visitation day.
- If you hold a transition event, schedule a time where students can write down questions they may have that didn't get answered during the event.
- As a class assignment, the 5<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers could pass out the forms and let the students write their questions, then compile a list of the questions to send to their receiving school. Be sure to check with the receiving school on who to send the forms to and how and when you can expect a response.

### Distribution Options for Families of 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

- During a transition event, make forms available for families to complete.




### Getting Answers Back

- During Kindergarten Round-Up, questions can be answered on the spot when the teacher brings the child back to the family waiting area. Or, questions and contact information can be collected and teachers can respond at an upcoming meeting or newsletter.



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- For counselor visits, the counselor can bring the forms back to the school. Organize current students and staff to answer questions and compile a Q & A sheet. This Q & A sheet can be sent to the schools that were visited for distribution to the appropriate grade-level.
- During a transition event, schedule time on the agenda for students/families to write questions and have time to answer them. Or, collect all questions, gather answers and create a Q & A sheet that can be mailed home or distributed back to their current school.

<b>Future kindergarten families ask ...</b>	<b>Families of 5th graders ask ...</b>	<b>Families of 8th graders ask ...</b>
<small>Do you have a question about kindergarten? If so, the kindergarten teachers are ready to answer. Set your question in the space below.</small>	<small>Do you have any questions about middle school? If so, middle school students and staff are ready to answer. Set your questions in the space below.</small>	<small>Do you have any questions about high school? If so, high school students and staff are ready to answer. Set your questions in the space below.</small>
Parent/Guardian Name _____ Student's Name _____	Parent/Guardian Name _____ Child's Name _____ Elementary School _____	Parent/Guardian Name _____ Student's Name _____ Middle School _____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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 <b>kindergarten answers ...</b>	 <b>middle school answers ...</b>	 <b>high school answers ...</b>