

# Heading to Kindergarten



## Information, Relationships and Alignment Thursday, June 2, 2022 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

12:30 – 12:40 **Welcome**

**Anita Armstrong, EdD, 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.

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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 – 3:55

**Transition to Kindergarten Resources – Next Steps**

*Ava Yeager, Education Program Specialist, Center for Continuous Improvement*

*Office of Federal Programs, Ohio Department of Education*

3:55– 4:00

**Closing Remarks**

*Anita Armstrong, EdD, LSW, Assistant Director - Head Start Collaboration,*

*Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education*