

Heading to Kindergarten



Information, Relationships and Alignment
Thursday, June 1, 2023
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Welcome

Anita Armstrong, Ed.D., LSW, Assistant Director - Head Start Collaboration,
Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education

Effects of the Pandemic on Ohio's Early Learners: What Schools Need to Know to Be Ready

Wendy Grove, Ph.D., Director, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness,
Ohio Department of Education

Why Showing Up Matters In Kindergarten

Hedy N. Chang, Executive Director, Attendance Works

In Ohio, chronic absence now affects nearly one in three kindergartners, almost twice the level before the pandemic. Addressing this attendance crisis is critical to laying the foundation for Ohio's youngest learners to thrive and succeed in school. Join this session to examine what is driving these high levels of chronic absence and how it can be addressed through deep investments in improving the positive conditions of learning for children and their families.

Lessons from the Field: Miamisburg City Schools

Break

Lessons from the Field: Clermont Northeastern Schools

Dive into the Early Learning Portal with INFOhio

Jill Finnan, Instructional Specialist, INFOhio

Explore the Early Learning Portal created to help engage early learners with technology in this interactive discussion. Learn about INFOhio and the digital resources available to parents, teachers and children ages 3-5.

The Importance of Attachment and Connection at Multiple Levels

Nicole Brazofsky, M.A.Ed., QMHS, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant
Pitty Jennings, LSW, OIFP-II, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant

Secure attachment and healthy, genuine connections play a vital role in laying the foundation for children's success in early childhood education and beyond. In this one-hour presentation, we will define attachment and identify barriers to forming meaningful connections with children, families, programs and systems. Participants will review approaches to successfully building connections and attachment at all levels that affect children's healthy development in group settings.

Closing

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