Perceptions on Pre-K to K Transitions May - June 2021

Survey Administration

The Palmetto Pre-K's Transitions Workgroup administered the Transitions from Pre-K to 5K Survey statewide via email from May 11, 2021- June 14, 2021 in English and Spanish. 59% of the counties in South Carolina were represented in the responses.

386 Responses | 219 Parents/Caretakers | 167 ECE Professionals

🏹 Palmetto Pre - K Early Education Teachers - 2% Family Support Specialists - 4% Child Care Administrators - 10% 5K Teachers - 11% 4K Teachers - 36% Other ECE - 37%

Figure 1 Make-up of ECE Professionals

Early childhood education professionals and parents/caretakers agree on the most helpful strategies for supporting children's transition to 5K.

There were seven best practices identified that respondents could rank from most to least helpful for preparing children for kindergarten.

- A document that describes the child's skills and educational needs to take to the 5K teacher
- 2. Flyer or handout for families about kindergarten readiness
- Meetings with family and Pre-K and 5K teachers before entering 5K
 Trainings about supporting transitions to 5K
 5K teachers visiting 4K classrooms

- 5. 5K teachers visiting 4K classrooms
 "Playing kindergarten" with students before entering 5K
- 7. Developing individual child transition plans with family and teachers based on child's needs

Early childhood education professionals and parents/caretakers both ranked (1) a document to describe the child's skills and educational needs to take to the 5K teacher and (3) meetings with family and Pre-K and 5K teachers before entering 5K as the most helpful for preparing children for entering kindergarten.

ECE professionals say their current work incorporates transition to 5K.

- 62% report using a document to describe the child's skills that can be taken to 5K
- **39%** report having meetings with the family and/or other teachers before the child enters 5K
 - I believe that if families were provided with some activities they could complete during the summer months, this would be helpful. This would mean families would not have to try [to] figure out what would be best for their student...I also believe having a standardized rubric that could be passed on to the student's 5k teacher would be helpful for all teachers.

Parents/caregivers want to know what skills their child should have to succeed.

58% of parents plan to have meetings with the child's 5K teacher prior to their child entering school



[Parent feels it's important to have] A clear understanding of the expectations and learning objectives being worked on at school so I can help her at home.

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