

Registrations for four and five year olds have begun. The transition from preschool to kindergarten is an important time for children and their families. You can be an enormous help by paving the way for the children you have worked with during the past year(s). Plan to share information on the STARK COUNTY – TRANSITION SKILLS CHECKLIST to assist kindergarten teachers to get ready for their new students.

Frequently asked questions:

Where did the form originate?

This form was designed through a collaboration of Stark County principals, kindergarten teachers, pre-school administrators, and early educators during a series of meetings in 2005.

How was the form designed?

Participants reviewed behavioral indicators and skills desired of children entering Kindergarten. Consideration was given to the research on transitions and the strategies which would support children's entrance to kindergarten.

How should the form be completed?

The form is designed to provide a brief overview of children's abilities. These should be easily obtained through reflection of child observations and/or periodic updates shared with parents during the year.

*Be sure to complete the entire form which includes specific needs and information you think the kindergarten teacher should know. **It is important to also share the completed form with a child's parent or guardian to gain permission to share the information.***

What do I do with the form when it is completed?

Consult the contact list(s) to identify the child's home district and school. NOTE: The transportation department is able to determine the school assignment based on a child's address. Forward the completed materials.

Where can I get forms or information?

These forms are available through the Early Childhood Resource Center, at our location 3114 Cleveland Ave. NW Canton 44709 OR on our website www.ecresourcecenter.org on the Happenings page.

If you have questions about contacts with the public schools, call Lisa Trieff at the Stark County Educational Service Center 330-492-8136 .

For additional information about children's transition to kindergarten, consult:

Pianta, R.C. and Kraft-Sayre, M.(2003). *Successful Kindergarten Transition: Your Guide to Connecting Children, Families & Schools*. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing, Inc. (available in the Library at the ECRC).