Hit the Ground Running

Transitioning Students Between Schools and Districts

Presented at NAFIS Fall Conference
September 2019

Collective Commitments

- ★ **Be Present**
- ★ **Be Engaged**
- ★ **Participate**

Our “Why”: “Building for the Future”
-setting our students up for success

Institutional Rules

Develop a Table Rule for Answering Questions (ex-person asking the question must put their hands on their head to receive an answer)

What is your name?
What district are you from?
What is your role in district?

"How dreadful...to be caught up in a game and have no idea of the rules."– **Caroline Stevermer, Sorcery & Cecelia: or The Enchanted Chocolate Pot**

Reflections

- **How did you feel trying to identify the table rule?**
- **How did you feel watching two group members struggle?**
- **How did you feel anticipating the next move?**

When You Don't Have The Information You Need

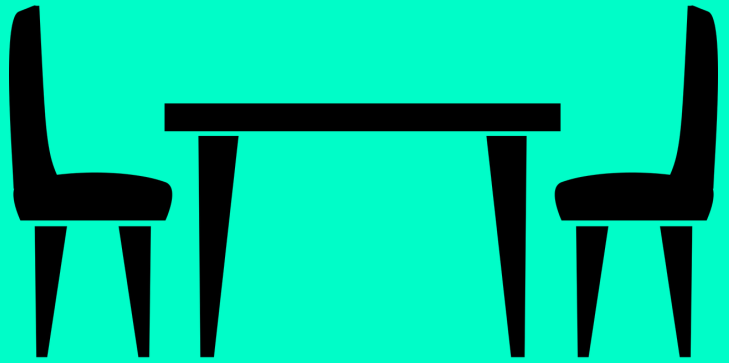
When we know better, we do better. Students' and families' struggles are not always apparent.

Goals

- **Identify the challenges we experience transitioning students in and out of school.**
- **Collaborate to create innovative ways to address those challenges**

“Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible.”
– Tony Robbins

Table Talk



Discuss the following conversation starters with your table partners.

- ★ Families are transitioning in and out of my district because…
- ★ Those transitions present the following challenges for us…

Group Challenges Word Cloud

Mobility presents Challenges

- ★ inconsistent academic standards and gaps in learning
- ★ extracurricular activities- missing tryouts, auditions, meeting eligibility criteria.
- ★ special education-gaps in services, misidentification, delayed identification
- ★ parental involvement- missed communication of important information, knowledge of resources, programs
- ★ social adjustment-discouraged from making friends, stress of “fitting in”

Facts About Student Mobility

- ★ Schools with high churn have lower overall achievement, even amongst kids who stay
- ★ High churn negates all other reforms
- ★ High churn compromises longitudinal data
- ★ Students who changed schools four or more times by 6th grade were about a year behind their classmates.
- ★ Various studies have found student mobility is associated with a lower school engagement, poorer grades in reading and math and a higher risk of dropping out of high school.
- ★ Students generally lose about three months of reading and math learning each time they switch schools

The Good News!

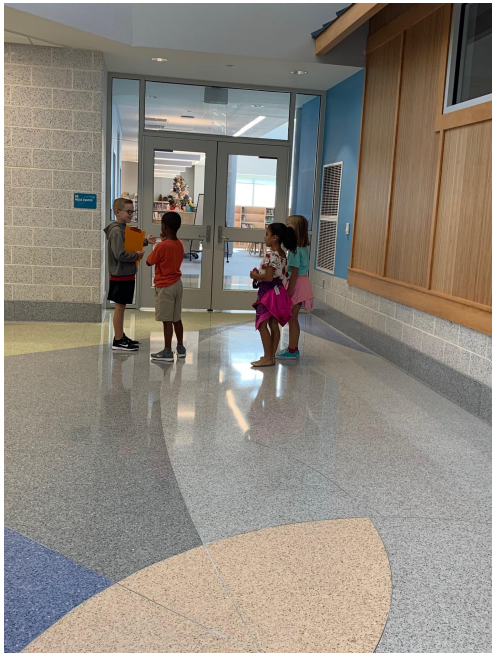
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS BUFFER THE EFFECTS

- Streamline the transfer of student data and students records
- Establish cooperative partnerships between agencies
- Establish intake and exit programs

Streamlined Data Transfer and Student Record transfer

- **Transition Coordinator: Immediate Benchmarking**
- **Military Interstate Compact 10 days**
- **At a glance Data Sheet**

Processes and Programs to support incoming students



Student Ambassador Program

Tour the Upper Elementary School

Virtual Tour

I am SO excited to be a part of this wonderf
importantly, I am THRILLED to be your teacher! It's g
laughter, learning, and new adventures, and I ca
has in store for us. I want to know ALL about you
few things about myself. My name is Emily And
College of New Jersey (TCNJ) with degrees in
(science, technology, engineering, and math
years that being a teacher is such a blessing
students grow in the classroom and as peop
each of you and to be a part of your first gr
Elementar

My Favorites:

Singing- I sang the National Anthem at multiple Phillies games and sang with a choir at the Grand Ole Opry in Tennessee

Adventuring- I love biking, waterskiing, hiking, and going to the beach!

My Family- I have a sister who is 2 years younger than me and a brother who is 4 years younger than me, and they are my two best friends!

-I
in
fro
pat

-I am

-My fav
hummingb

-My family has
Beach Island, wh
place to visit

Please feel free to contact me at any time. If you have any questions or comments do not hesitate to email me. I look forward to a fantastic year in first grade!

Email: eanderson@nhanover.com

I graduated from York College of PA with a
ee in **Early Childhood and Special**
hen I am not at school, my
do is walk the trails with my
Scarlett.

r will be my **fourth**
and I am absolutely
ching journey with
!

s precious, but
t, the **first five**
is my mission as an
th and **persistence**.

ool year to start!
ave any questions or
amore@nhanover.com.
ific year!

A few OF MY favorites:

COLOR	**Pink**
SEASON	Fall
FOOD	**Pizza**
DRINK	Butter Pecan Iced Coffee
SONG	**Any Disney Song**
BOOK	"Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister

Teacher Biography and Information Folder

New Family Open House

Welcome to Atlantis School! This scavenger hunt is designed to provide an opportunity to tour the school and gain valuable information. Use the map attached to help you find the locations listed on the tic-tac-toe board. Visit at least ten locations to receive a prize! See the Transition Coordinator in the Main Lobby.

Cafeteria located in Multi-purpose room	Stop by the Nurse's Office and grab a copy of the food policy Next to Rm 216	Visit the Library	Guidance near Library
Visit room 223 to learn about Genesis	Visit the Main Office and meet Mrs. Michelle Stecchini, the school principal		Meet the gym teacher located in the multi-purpose room
Visit a Classroom Rm 212, 215, 227, or 229			Learn about FIT Rm 242
Visit the Computer Lab to learn about Computers and GT Rm 207	Speak with the Director of SpED CST Office Rm 243	Art Room Rm 209	Say hello to the Superintendent, Mrs. Helen Payne

New Family Orientation

New Family Open House

Processes and programs to support students leaving

- **Spirit Sticks**
- **Goodbye ceremony**
- **Supports for kids who are saying goodbye to friends**

Cooperative Partnerships

- Relationships with other school districts
- Relationships with family support services in communities
- MFLC

Gallery Walk and Share

Reflect back to the challenges you thought about at the beginning of the session

List the challenge and possible solutions (something you heard today or an original or existing programs that needs to be enhanced)

Take aways...

Suitcase

Crumple Ball

Questions and Contacts

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Ms. Helen Payne, Superintendent, North Hanover Township Schools, NJ (JBMDL) hpayne@nhanover.com