

Questions for Reflection

Develop a welcoming environment and sense of belonging and cultivate a shared responsibility for children’s learning from age three to grade three. Are there dedicated spaces in our school where families can gather and where parents and community members can meet with teachers and the principal? Is family and community engagement part of our expected job descriptions? Is it incorporated into our professional evaluations? What specific professional learning support are we offering teachers to effectively improve our capacity to communicate with and engage families? Do we allocate specific time in the school calendar on a regular basis to meet with parents and families? Are we providing a variety of ongoing opportunities (face to face and via technology) to engage families in understanding and supporting their children’s progress?

Provide meaningful transitions between preschool and elementary school. How am I serving as a bridge between early learning services (childcare, preschool and home care) and my elementary school? Are we working across the school to link families to support resources (health, social services, adult literacy and learning) to foster collaborations across the community and increase parent capacity to support their child’s learning? Do we initiate new opportunities with potential community partners to help create bridges between early learning and elementary school settings?

Develop out-of-school and summer learning opportunities for children from age three to grade three. Am I articulating the value of afterschool and summer learning to student achievement and social growth to my teachers, parents and students? Have we mapped the afterschool and summer learning opportunities available to children in our school and made parents aware of them? Are we acting as active brokers to ensure that all children, especially those from disadvantaged households, have access to extended learning opportunities? Is there more we can do to create additional out-of-school activities at our school?

Blend and braid funding to maximize resource opportunities. To what extent am I actively seeking to create new partnerships and find new funding streams to create new opportunities to support children’s learning? Has our school designated teams of teachers, administrators and families to think creatively and innovatively about what’s needed to improve our learning community, based on staff and community input?

Notes Type your notes below.
