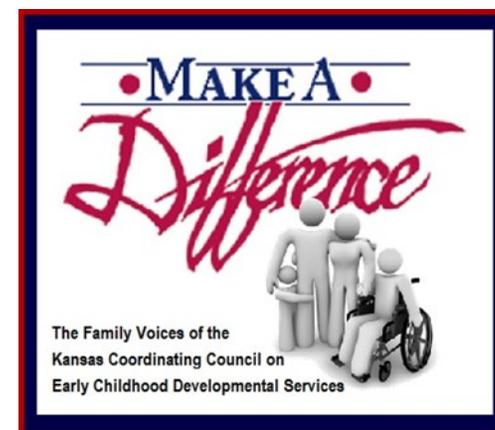


**Parents have indicated that in order for them to feel as equal partners and walk away from meetings feeling positive, they would like to be able to say yes to the following statements:**

- I felt like an equal partner in the transition planning process.
- I felt my opinions and concerns were considered.
- I felt my child will receive the services he/she will need to be successful.
- I was offered different options to consider for preschool.
- I was treated as an expert on my child.
- Overall, I was pleased with the transition process.
- My child will attend the preschool he/she would attend if nondisabled.
- My child receives special education services at the preschool of my choice.
- My Family Service Coordinator attended the transition meeting with me.
- I am satisfied with my child's Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- I am satisfied with my child's placement.
- I felt welcomed by the school staff



## Transitioning at Age



**Can the parents you work with say yes to their meeting with you?**

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## Tips for Working with Families

The Family Voices Committee is made up of the parent members of the Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services which advises on childhood issues for children birth to five. On behalf of our committee and input from throughout the Council and from parents across the state of Kansas, we wish to offer the following thoughts for your consideration when meeting with parents and families. We welcome you to share this information with service providers in your network and school district who also serve children with special needs.



Put parents in touch with other local resources, service providers, and support groups within the community, as well as state resources such as Families Together, Inc., Parent-to-Parent match, the local ICC, KPERC, KITS, etc.

Support the family through the transition process by having the service coordinator or a trusted therapist present at ALL transition meetings until an IEP is signed.

Share the transition summary with the family 10 days PRIOR to submitting it to the school district so they have the opportunity to question or request additions before the transition meetings begin.

Be certain to extend the invitation to the family that they may bring another family member, a close friend who knows the child well, or an outside therapist to the meetings, if they so choose.

Providers need to remember that coaching is not just sitting and chatting with the parent – it's coaching. Coaching requires demonstration, discussion, modeling, and practice. Don't be afraid to play with the child!

Please don't be afraid to say "I don't know"

Be courteous – if you are running late, call or text the family. If you have a student with you, get the parent's permission before asking them to join you on a home visit.

Be thorough – it's so hard to write notes and wrap up a visit, but if notes aren't clear, it's very hard to know what you are working on, why, and what the family may need.

