

Grade Level to Level Transition Support

Poudre School District

Fort Collins, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education

Grade Level to Level Transition Support is a program that supports students with special needs and families to successfully transition:

- From one grade level to the next.
- Into the Poudre School District from a different district.
- From one school to another within the Poudre School District.

When a new parent or family of a student with a disability moves into the Poudre School District, the family is supported with understanding districts policies and services available at specific schools.

An Integrated Services Parent Liaison works with the family to arrange school tours and introductions with special education teachers and building teams. Additionally, an information packet is sent out to new parents and families that includes an Integrated Services Parent Handbook for the Poudre School District, a district calendar, an acronyms sheet to help families navigate the language of education, a Student Profile form, and access to Helpful Hints from Parents to Parents regarding their attendance at Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings in the district. Information about special education is sent out via emailed newsletters throughout the year to ensure that parents are able to stay active and informed within the school community.

Next, when a family is transitioning their student to a new grade level, such as the transition from preschool to kindergarten, the Parent Liaison is available to support families with more information. Programming and service information, school tours, and connections with other families and staff members are facilitated. A Transition Packet is provided to support the individual needs of students during school-to-school transitions while building positive, collaborative relationships between staff, families, and students. The packet includes questionnaires, note catchers, timelines, and meeting agendas, as well as planning pieces to help families feel prepared and organized throughout their student's transition.

A Level to Level transition informational evening for parents of students with disabilities is provided each February. Parents of students transitioning to a new level are invited to a question and answer session with special education teachers and related service staff; grade-level specific sessions are provided. This Grade Level Transition Support is a continuous cycle throughout the academic year and into the future, as students continue their education with Poudre School District.