

The Resource Back to School Packet for Teachers

What
is it



A packet that provides:

- class, school, and district information to families
- tools to engage families & provide info to the teacher
- a system for home-school communication
- social supports for students

Who
uses it



The teacher:

- shares with families
- supports students
- engages families
- builds relationships with families & students

When
you use it



Back to school:

- conferences
- home visits
- meet & greets
- family nights

Why you
use it



The purpose:

- To build relationships with families and students
- To share information & expectations with families and students
- To ease any anxiety or nervousness the family or student might be having
- To help prepare the families & students for the new school year
- To provide a work system for home-school communication

What
the research
says



"The evidence is consistent, positive, and convincing: families have a major influence on their children's achievement in school & through life...The research continues to grow & build an ever-strengthening case. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more."

Henderson, A., Mapp, K. Johnson, V. & Davies, D. (2007). *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships*. New York, NY: The New York Press.

Part 1: Info for Families:

- Class, school, & staff information
- Communication & contacts
- School supply list & more

Part 2: Info for the Teacher:

- Family information
- Student Information
- Hopes & Dreams

Part 3: Home-School Binder




- Purpose of this system
- Explanation & photos of contents
- How to use

Part 4: Student Supports

- Examples of Power Cards
- Examples of Social Narratives
- Resources

How to Use this Packet:

You may choose to use this entire packet "as is" or you may "pick and choose" the parts that are useful to you and add them to supports you already use. What you should know:

- Each section is color-coded so you can differentiate between the sections.
- This packet is editable. You can delete photos or clipart and add your own, or choose not to use any at all.
- "Need to know NOW" information is marked with a **green exclamation point**. This is information that is really important to you or families as soon as possible. 
- "Need to know eventually" information is marked with a **blue diamond**. This is information that is helpful, but doesn't need to be given out or received immediately. 
- "Nice to know" information is marked with a **red heart**. This is information that is nice to know, but could be given out or received on an as-needed basis. 

Family Engagement Resources

Articles:

*Division of Early Childhood Recommended Practices document pages 9-10
<http://www.dec-sped.org/recommendedpractices>

*Dual Capacity Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships
<http://www.2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/partners-education.com>

*What Parents Want & Need from Service Providers
http://barryprizant.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/asq16_join_us_on_the_journey_winter_2011.pdf

Books:

*Byrk, A., Bender Sebring, P., Allensworth, E., Luppescu S., & Eston, J. (2010). *Organizing Schools for Improvement: Lessons from Chicago*. Chicago, Illinois: University of Chicago Press.

*Dordly, J.C. (2008). *Involving Parents of Students with Special Needs: 25 Ready to Use Strategies*. Thousand Oaks, California: Corwin Press.

*Henderson, A., Mapp, K., Johson, V., & Davies, D. (2007). *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships*. New York, New York: New Press.

Websites:

*Beach Center on Disability www.beachcenter.org

*Families Together, Inc.
<http://familiestogetherinc.org/>

*Kansas Coalition for Effective Family Engagement
www.kcefe.net

*Kansas Parent Information Resource Center
www.ksdetasn.org/KPIRC

Autism, Evidence Based Practices, & Social Support Resources

Articles:

*Structured Teaching: Strategies for Supporting Students with Autism?

(Written by Susan Stokes under a contract with CESA 7 and funded by a discretionary grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.)

<https://www.cesa7.org/sped/autism/structure/str10.htm>

Books:

*Gagnon, Elisa. (2001). *Power Cards: Using Special Interests to Motivate Children and Youth with Asperger Syndrome and Autism*. Shawnee Mission, Kansas: Autism Asperger Publishing Co.

*Gray, Carol. (2015). *The New Social Story Book, Revised and Expanded 15th Anniversary Edition: Over 150 Social Stories that Teach Everyday Social Skills to Children and Adults with Autism and Their Peers*. Arlington, Texas: Future Horizons.

*Myles, B.S. (2004). *The Hidden Curriculum: Practical Solutions for Understanding Unstated Rules in Social Situations*. Shawnee Mission, Kansas: Autism Asperger Publishing Company.

Websites:

*Autism Internet Modules www.autisminternetmodules.org

AIMS modules provide high quality information and professional development through online modules for educators and families.

*Autism Speaks www.autismspeaks.org

Information on many topics for families and educators including developmental milestones, policies, resources, and more.

*National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder

<http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/>

Evidence Based Practice Modules on various topics.

*TASN Kansas ASD www.kansasasd.com

Go to “Classroom Materials” for visual aids and social supports.



TASN Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports is funded through Part B funds administered by the Kansas State Department of Education's Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services. TASN Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Deputy Director, Keystone Learning Services, 500 E. Sunflower, Ozawie, KS 66070, [785-876-2214](tel:785-876-2214)

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