

Elementary to Middle School Transition Tips for Families

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It is the kids who show us what they need and where we need to go next. Follow the child.

Juli Kendall

Families Can:



Stay connected with your middle schooler. Be a good listener; spend some time relaxing with your child. Tell them what you like about them.



Build relationships with all of your child's teachers, not just one. Have all the teachers get to know your child and family better. Communicate on a regular basis.

IEP

Remember what the **I** stands for in IEP, **individual**. Make sure the services and supports your child receives and where those are given are based on your child's **individual** needs, not based on what "the middle school has always done".



Read and understand school policies and middle school curriculum. Students with disabilities need to have access and make progress in the general education curriculum.



Be involved in typical parent organization and typical school activities. Show your interest in making the school a better place for all students, not just students with disabilities.



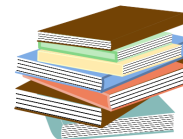
Keep a copy of your child's locker combination and schedule at home.



Talk to your child about a friend that may help your child with the transition to middle school. Ask school if that friend can be in some of your child's classes.



Have child select school supplies, and locker items. Make sure they are age-appropriate for middle schoolers.



Consider if you want to ask for an extra set of textbooks to keep at home for your child to use.