

August 2019

Dear Kindergarten Teacher Team,

Two different types of questionnaires (*Getting to Know Your Family*, and *Welcome Kindergarten Families*) are available for you to use with your students and their families. Both of these questionnaires give families the opportunity to share critical information with you regarding their child. Either are encouraged to be shared during your kindergarten Open House, Curriculum Night, or similar engagement activity.

These questionnaires are not mandatory, but offer an opportunity for you to begin to build a strong family-school relationship. Also available is the Introduction to DE-ELS Family Flyer, which gives an overview of the purpose of the observational survey.

The *Getting to Know Your Family* questionnaire offers the opportunity to gather information about a student's home language, educational background, home environment, and contact information.

The *Welcome Kindergarten Families* questionnaire offers the opportunity for the student and family to share about themselves with the help of family members through pictures, drawings, and writing.

Teachers that have utilized these surveys in the past have shared that it provided key information that was not given on the registration paperwork. We have received feedback that families were very honest and forthcoming in sharing details that they may not feel comfortable sharing in person.

If you have any questions or concerns about the questionnaires or flyer, please contact Christina Koutsourades at christina.koutsourades@doe.k12.de.us.

Best,

Office of Early Learning team