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**Direct Family School Engagement & Advocacy: Purpose**

**Description**

**Luncheon**

The Ready Set Succeed approach helps children and families get ready for kindergarten. Family meetings are an important part of the kindergarten transition. Some families and children might be nervous about kindergarten. Families and students usually have lots of questions. Our family meetings are a time for us to meet, talk together, and answer any questions you might have. Families will learn from each other during our meetings. We will also share important information about kindergarten and the choices you have as a parent.

We will also work together to help you speak up for your child when they are in kindergarten. We call this educational advocacy. You are your child’s first and most important teacher! We want to help you use your voice and advocate for your child.

We also hope that our family meetings will build stronger bonds between you and your child’s school. Having a good relationship with your child’s preschool can help them grow and learn.

**When will we meet?**

During the school year we will have 6 meetings together. Meetings will happen after school. Meetings will last for 1 hour. We will provide dinner and childcare to make it easy for you to attend. If you have ideas about what would work better for families, please let us know!

**What will we discuss?**

Below are the title, topic, and summary for each session:

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 1 (Part A & B): Introduction – Building Relationships

This session is for families to connect with each other and learn about Ready Set Succeed.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 2 (Part A & B): Learning from Each Other: Effective Communication

This session lets families discuss effective communication between families, teachers, and school leaders.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 3 (Part A & B): Understanding School-Based Advocacy in ECE

This session is for families to learn about problem-solving and dealing with discrimination in schools.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 4: Understanding Your Rights in Special Education (PreK–K Edition)

This session is for families to learn about special education services offered in Flint. We will discuss your rights and your child’s rights in preschool and kindergarten.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 5 (Part A & B): Understanding Schools as Organizations

This session is for families to learn more about Flint Community Schools and your choices for kindergarten in Flint.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Session 6: Family-School Partnerships (Community Fair)

This session is for families to learn more about how strong family-school partnerships help your child grow and learn.