**LINC 1.4 Activity 1**

**Anticipating Transitions**

**Overview**

Transitions are an inevitable part of education. Children transition horizontally (e.g. school-to-school or [specialized education] program-to-program) and vertically (e.g. grade level). Transitions present both a challenge and an opportunity for school leaders and staff, as well as students. In order to best support students throughout their educational transitions, it is important to be able to anticipate some of the challenges students, families, and teachers may experience as a result of these challenges.

**Plan**

Transitions typically occur at regular intervals throughout the P-12 continuum. You will deepen your comprehension of the transitional experience by completing the table below that asks you to answer a series of questions from different points-of-view. These will capture both horizontal and vertical transitional experiences in the continuum. Be thoughtful about your responses to these questions by pausing to really consider the perspectives, needs, and concerns of each party.

**Reflect**

After you have completed the table, reflect on your responses. Consider the following questions in your reflection:

* How did your responses vary based on type the transition—vertical versus horizontal?
* How did your responses change based on the age of the student?
* How do the concerns of a parent, teacher, and student relate or differ?
* What information needs to be exchanged for effective transitions?
* What steps might school leaders take to anticipate these questions and disseminate information before they must be asked?

**Transitional Experiences Table**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | What would you like to know? | What would you like others to know? | What do you worry about with the upcoming transition? | What would make you feel better prepared? |
| Kindergarten parent |  |  |  |  |
| Ninth grade teacher |  |  |  |  |
| Sixth grade student |  |  |  |  |
| Fifth grade special education parent |  |  |  |  |
| Twelfth grade student |  |  |  |  |