

SHAKOPEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA





Shakopee Public Schools
School Board Learning Session
District Office Board Room, 1200 Town Square,
Shakopee, MN 55379

September 10, 2018
6:05 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER SCHOOL BOARD LEARNING SESSION AND ROLL CALL - CHAIR SWANSON
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND ADDITIONS
 3. 1. Recognition of Superintendent Gary Anger
 3. 2. 2018-19 School Board Agenda Map 3
 3. 3. Construction Update & District Facilities Discussion - Current & Future Committee Work 5
 3. 4. Discussion of NorthStar and ESSA Results 7
<http://rc.education.state.mn.us/>
 3. 5. Staffing Update 11
 3. 6. Review of the Start of the School Year including info on Connect & Assess Days 12
4. OTHER
5. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES 33
 - September 12, 2018 BOC 5:00PM
 - September 24, 2018 Policy Committee Meeting 4:00PM
 - September 24, 2018 Finance Committee Meeting 5:00PM
 - September 24, 2018 School Board Business Meeting 6:00PM
 - September 26, 2018 BOC 5:00PM
 - October 8, 2018 Personnel Committee Meeting 5:00PM
 - October 8, 2018 School Board Learning Session 6:00PM
 - October 10, 2018 BOC 5:00PM
 - October 22, 2018 Finance Committee Meeting 5:00PM
 - October 22, 2018 School Board Business Meeting 6:00PM
 - October 24, 2018 BOC 5:00PM
 - November 6, 2018 General Election 7:00AM-8:00PM
 - November 13, 2018 Policy Committee Meeting 5:00PM
 - November 13, 2018 School Board Business Meeting 6:00PM
6. ADJOURNMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD LEARNING SESSION



Shakopee Public Schools School Board Agenda Map 2018–19

District Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review advertising and create naming rights procedures for the Academies and opportunity spaces inside the Academies of Shakopee and school district Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Examine grading practices Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve graduation requirements policy Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Update district policies to align with mandated and strategic changes Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Review remaining policy Series 600 Action:
Operating Oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve budget & budget assumptions Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Study operating levy strategy Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Update Long Term Facilities Maintenance plan Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Explore Early Childhood Education programming Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Consider lease options and space usage Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Create facilities task force Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve Characteristics of a Graduate Action: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare for block scheduling implementation Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor programs and progress of strategic directions Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Assess community demographic study Action:
Board Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Board self-evaluation Action: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Perform Superintendent evaluation 2 times annually Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Determine & finalize Superintendent contract Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Hold annual & mid-year retreats Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for election of 4 School Board seats Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Execute School Board election Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Onboard new School Board Members Action:
Public Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Accept Ford Next Generation Community Designation Action: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create and establish business & stakeholder partnerships Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Improve all stakeholder communications Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate staff and parent engagement Action:



Shakopee Public Schools School Board Agenda Map 2018 – 2021

	2018 – 19	2019 – 20	2020 – 21
District Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review advertising and create naming rights procedures for the Academies and opportunity spaces inside the Academies of Shakopee and school district <input type="checkbox"/> Examine grading practices <input type="checkbox"/> Approve graduation requirements policy <input type="checkbox"/> Update district policies to align with mandated and strategic changes <input type="checkbox"/> Review remaining policy Series 600 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1/3 Policy review <input type="checkbox"/> Update district policies to align with mandated and strategic changes <input type="checkbox"/> Update grading policy <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor graduation requirements policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1/3 Policy review <input type="checkbox"/> Update district policies to align with mandated changes
Operating Oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve budget & budget assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Study Operating Levy strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Update Long Term Facilities Maintenance plan <input type="checkbox"/> Explore Early Childhood Education programming <input type="checkbox"/> Consider lease options and space usage <input type="checkbox"/> Create Facilities Task Force <input type="checkbox"/> Approve Characteristics of a Graduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare for block scheduling implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor programs and progress of strategic directions <input type="checkbox"/> Assess community demographic study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve budget & budget assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Determine Operating Levy strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Update Long Term Facilities Maintenance plan <input type="checkbox"/> Create contract negotiations strategies for all employee groups <input type="checkbox"/> Launch Early Childhood Education programming <input type="checkbox"/> Consider lease options and space usage <input type="checkbox"/> Implement recommendations from Facilities Task Force <input type="checkbox"/> Implement block scheduling <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor programs and progress of strategic directions <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize community demographic study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve budget & budget assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Update Long Term Facilities Maintenance plan <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor programs and progress of strategic directions
Board Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Board self-evaluation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Perform Superintendent evaluation 2 times annually <input type="checkbox"/> Determine & finalize Superintendent contract <input type="checkbox"/> Hold annual & mid-year retreats <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for election of 4 School Board seats <input type="checkbox"/> Execute School Board election <input type="checkbox"/> Onboard new School Board Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Board self-evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Superintendent evaluation 2 times annually <input type="checkbox"/> Hold annual & mid-year retreats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Board self-evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Superintendent evaluation 2 times annually <input type="checkbox"/> Determine & finalize Superintendent contract <input type="checkbox"/> Hold annual & mid-year retreats <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for election of 3 School Board seats <input type="checkbox"/> Execute School Board election <input type="checkbox"/> Onboard new School Board Members
Public Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept Ford Next Generation Community Designation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create and establish business & stakeholder partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Improve all stakeholder communications <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate staff and parent engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create and establish business & stakeholder partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Improve all stakeholder communications <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate staff and parent engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create and establish business & stakeholder partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Improve all stakeholder communications <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate Staff and parent engagement



TASK FORCE ON FACILITIES

Charge:

Establish a current understanding of school district facilities

- Do we have the space we need?
- How do we use our space efficiently?
- Where might we have challenges in our future?
- Share findings/make recommendations to BOC

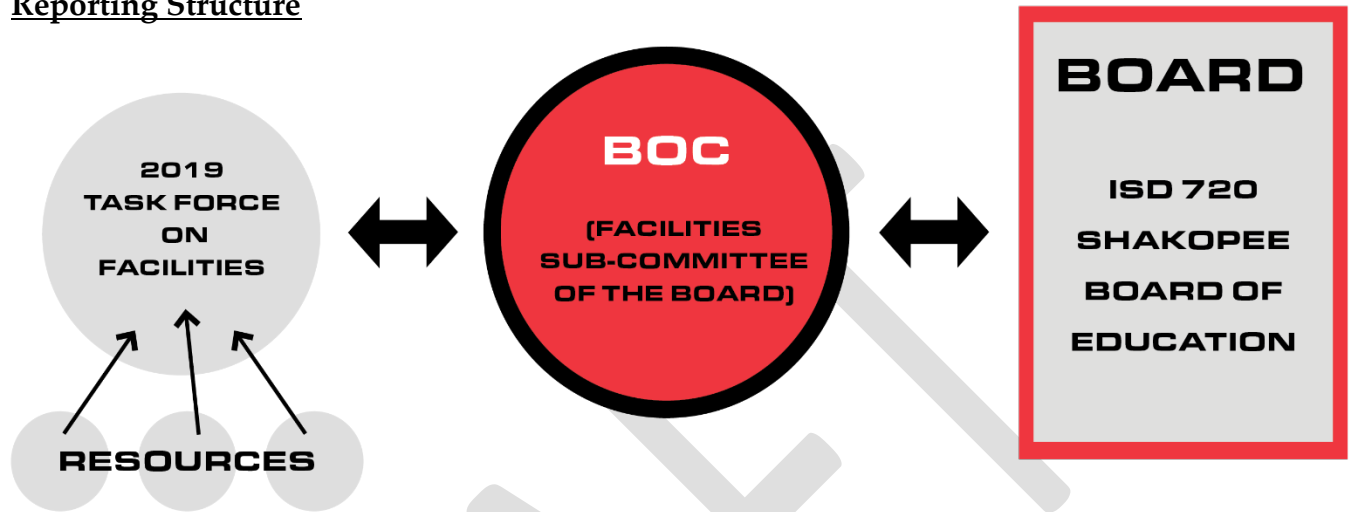
Anticipated Topics

- Enrollment projections/current capacities
- Future facility pressure
- Current facility utilization flexibility
- Pearson School
- Central Family Center
- Tokata Learning Center
- District Offices

Topics *not part of this task force*

- Grade configuration
- Attendance areas
- Transfer request between buildings
- Temporary crowding

Reporting Structure



Participants

- Taskforce = 12-18 participants (mix of community, parents, staff, teachers, board rep(s)).
- Resources = Superintendent , select administrators, and other experts as necessary
- Utilize traditional application process

Schedule/Duration/Commitment

- Approximately 3 months
- 2 hour meetings, every 2 weeks

Calendar/Timing

- Start date: TBD
- Report due: TBD

School Board Meeting

May 7, 2018

ESSA & WBWF

Every Student Succeeds Act & World's Best Workforce

ESSA




Accountability Under the Every Student Succeeds Act:
Identifying Schools and Districts for Support and Improvement


Every Student Succeeds Act

Minnesota is doing some branding around “North Star”

The indicators



Academic Achievement
The number of students at the “Meets Standards” or “Exceeds Standards” achievement levels divided by all students in tested grades. Calculated separately for **math** and **reading**.



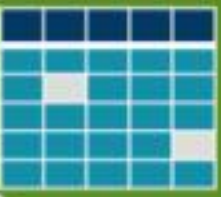
Progress Toward English Language Proficiency
The average progress English learners made toward individual growth targets on the ACCESS for ELLs test.



Academic Progress
A score based on students’ achievement levels from one year to the next. Calculated separately for **math** and **reading**.

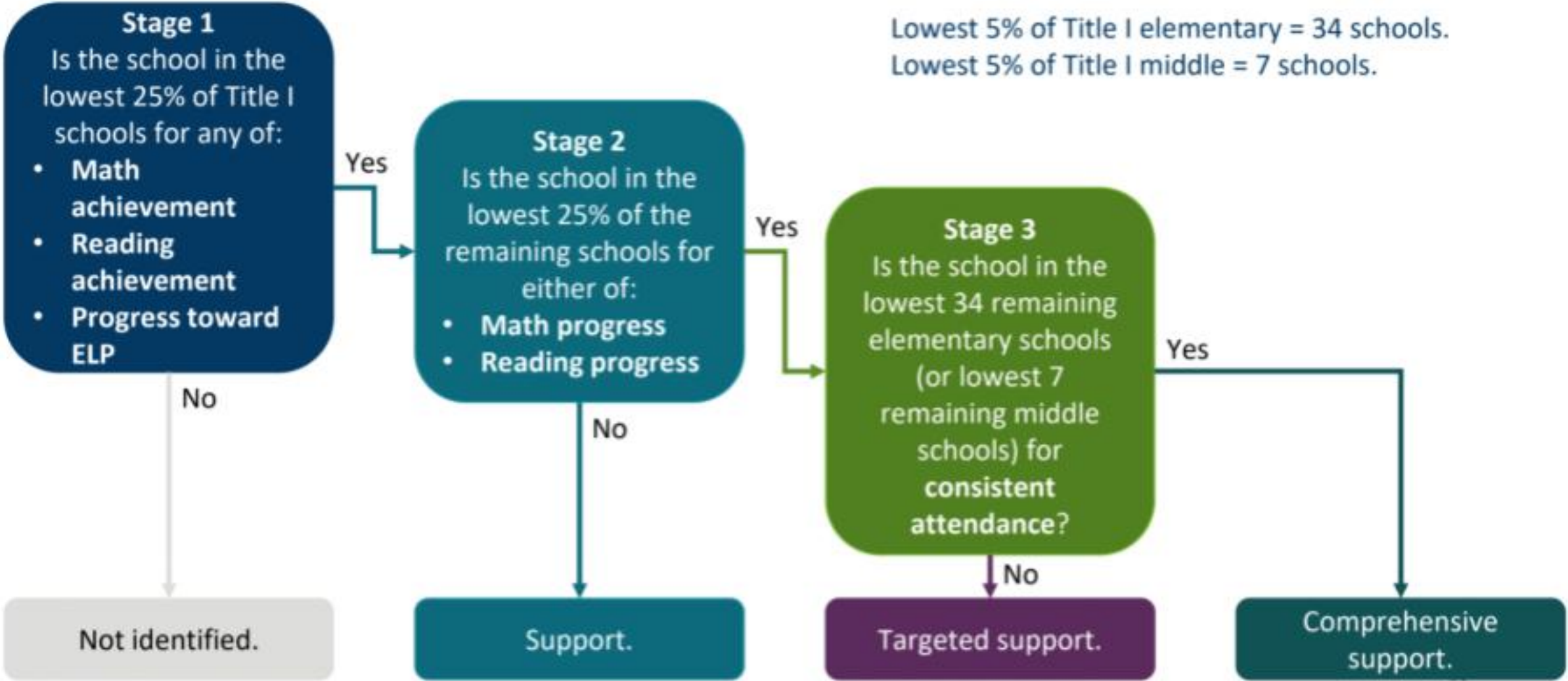


Graduation Rates
The percentage of students who graduated in **four years** and **seven years**.



Consistent Attendance
The percentage of students attending more than 90 percent of the days they are enrolled.

Elementary and middle school



Staffing Update

9/7/2018

Class Size Parameters

Over the summer, we have been monitoring class size parameters for all of our elementary and secondary buildings. Late this summer we added one teacher to 1st grade at Sun Path Elementary because classes were above the target enrollment by more than 3 students per class. Currently we are within parameters throughout the District. No addition staff appear needed. We are currently up seven students district wide compared to the numbers we staffed with in the spring.

Vacancies

Interim Superintendent: A variance request is being considered September 10th by the Board of School Administrators. You may have the approval prior to this meeting.

Superintendent: The ad was posted on ED Post, Minnesota Association of School Administrators, Minnesota School Board Association, Minnesota School Business Officials, LinkedIn, Twitter, and an email sent to all current superintendents in the state of Minnesota.

Other Vacancies:

Category	Title	Location
Athletics/Activities		
Athletics/Activities	Assistant Boys Hockey Coach	District Wide
Athletics/Activities	Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach	District Wide
Athletics/Activities	Head Boys Basketball Coach	Shakopee High School
Athletics/Activities	Head Cheerleading Coach	Shakopee High School
Elementary		
Elementary	Building Substitute	Red Oak Elementary School
Secondary Teaching gr 6 -12		
Secondary Teaching gr 6 -12	Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel Instructor	Shakopee High School
Secondary Teaching gr 6 -12	LTS English Teacher	Shakopee High School
Secondary Teaching gr 6 -12	LTS, Chemistry Teacher	Shakopee High School
Secondary Teaching gr 6 -12	LTS, Math Teacher	Shakopee High School
Support Staff		
Support Staff	AVID Tutor	West Middle School
Support Staff	Intervention Paraprofessional	Shakopee High School
Support Staff	Paraprofessional, ECSE	Central Family Center - Early Childhood Programs
Support Staff	Paraprofessional, Supervision	Jackson Elementary School
Support Staff	Special Ed Paraprofessional	District Wide
Support Staff	Special Education Paraprofessional- Soccer	East Middle School
Unaffiliated		
Unaffiliated	Supervisor of Fiscal Services	District
Unaffiliated	Temporary Data & Testing Supervisor	District

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
1st	Almost all of my parents appreciated having one on one time with the teacher instead of the chaos of open house. They felt it was a personal experience and a great way for student to connect with the teacher as well.	I loved being able to assess my students before the first day of school. It was also great to connect with parents 1:1 and have a conversations.
1st	Most commented on how they felt more connected because they had time to talk with the teacher. Students seemed to do better on the first day of school due to less anxiety.	As a teacher, I LOVE how my assessments are done. I can hit the ground running so much faster. Two days well spent!
1st	Great way to connect	I loved it
1st		I enjoyed the chance to meet the students before the first day and get my testing done.
1st		It was a great way to connect with families!
1st		I liked being able to have the "jumping off point" for reading done before school even starts and in a setting where I am not trying to assess while trying to manage students when procedures etc. haven't yet been established. I appreciated having the time to meet with families individually for a length of time vs. the chaos of open house. I missed seeing students from previous years who would check in at open house. I hope that we will continue this.
1st	Enjoyed that it wasn't as crazy with parking etc.	Loved it. Time to actually meet everyone. Great to be able to get baseline DRAs and time to collect and organize all the forms before the first day
1st	It was nice to be able to talk with the teacher privately.	I liked that I have some baseline assessment data before school starts. With 1st graders it usually takes many short sessions to assess your whole class. Now I can concentrate on setting up center routines and probably start small groups 2-3 weeks before I usually would. I enjoyed being able to connect with parents in a quiet and calm environment. Forms were filled out and I am able to turn in complete classroom sets. The office at Eagle Creek did a great job continuing to contact parents that did not sign up right away!!
1st	They enjoyed the one-on-one time	I enjoyed being able to get to know families and students and assessing them right away!
1st	I heard all positive feedback from parents! They really enjoyed it as well as I did! I hope it continues.	
1st	Parents seemed to appreciate the time. They were able to ask questions directly and get answers quickly. It was more personable.	As a teacher I loved this time. I was able to connect with the kids and really get a feel for where they are at academically!

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
1st	"_____ was nervous about coming to school, but now I can tell she feels a lot better."	I have more parent paperwork than I have ever had in years past, so I do not have to spend time trying to paperwork back. It was wonderful to check with parents about busing and pickup. I loved that I was able to do quite a bit of assessments and had a better idea of where kids fall in my class. It was great to have time to answer any questions that parents had before the year began.
1st	As a parent, I really enjoyed the freedom to talk with the teacher without feeling like I was interrupting another conversation. It was low stress and I loved how the teachers had time to talk with my children to start building that relationship one on one from the beginning.	As a teacher, I loved being able to meet with the parents and discuss any questions or concerns they had right away. I loved being able to meet the students and even do some assessments on my students from the beginning. I found it very helpful to have parents fill out forms during this time because I have almost all of them turned in already.
1st	Great, positive, nice to work 1:1 with a family, all money for activity fees and lunch collected in one central location, great support to direct families to rooms and start them on updating forms, etc outside classrooms.	Can we add school pictures in the cafeteria so everyone (staff included) can have their photos taken too? Also, YMCA staff at the table would be EXCELLENT but nobody was physically present to answer pressing questions.
1st	More personal for parents to get to ask questions in a non-threatening manner and more confidential.	I enjoyed the time and feel it gave me a good baseline to get started with my kiddos. It also helped me to have connection with each kiddo to start building that relationship. The 10-8 was very long. It was also very tough to go right up to 3:30 the day before school starts it required me to stay much later that night to be sure all the papers were organized and collected prior to students arriving the next morning.
1st	I had many who appreciated to one on one time in the classroom.	I appreciated having the chance to focus on just one student at a time and get to know them a little. It was a great way to make them feel welcome and ease some anxiety. The assessment piece was extremely valuable and will save us time this Fall.
1st		I could connect much better with families vs trying to meet over 20 people in 1 1/2 hours like we used to for Open House. Parents could share personal concerns privately with me prior to school starting. I also got some academic baseline info on all my students so I don't have to try to do one-on-one assessments when I'm teaching routines etc the first couple of weeks of school. That also helps me know more about them for academic planning and support purposes.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
1st	Several parents commented on how nice it was to actually get to talk one on one with the teacher and get questions addressed. It wasn't as chaotic. They really liked that the teacher got to build a relationship with the student before starting school.	The time that we spent assessing students (30 minutes per student) was time well spent. Those assessments need to be done one on one while I typically have a classroom full of first graders that are NOT able to work independently without interrupting you several times. These assessments usually take me 4-6 weeks to complete and my teaching during those first 4-6 weeks isn't great because I am trying to get these tests done. I loved it and it was worth every effort it took to make this happen. Thank you!
1st		I loved having the time to talk to each family individually and having the ability to do DRA's so that I can get started on groups much sooner that I previously would have been able to.
1st		I loved it, it was a great opportunity to get to know my students before the first day of school.
1st		Very pleased with it - thankful for the opportunity to get to know students one on one and learn their names before the first day!
2nd	Loved having the time to come in and talk to the teachers about the child. Enjoyed being able to fill out forms, sign up for volunteering at school without taking the paperwork home.	I loved having the time to get to know my kids and get input from parents. I found the time to assess extremely valuable.
2nd		Whoever thought this up--brilliant!! It was a calm and fun 2 days of testing. I had time to really talk to the parents and the child. I knew all my kids (except for the 2 that did not sign up) right from the start and I feel like I have a good place to start. I thought it was super beneficial.
2nd	They enjoyed coming and meeting us.	It was nice to know the kids before the first day!
2nd		It was a very nice way to really get to know each of my students AND some members of their family. I felt that kids were more comfortable today (the first day of school) because they had already spent a good chunk of time in our classroom and with me. Love this and hope it continues.
2nd		
2nd	"We like having time to talk to the teacher without them having to feel they have to rush to the next family who walks in the door for open house.	It was the best start to school I have had in many years. I already had connections to the students and they felt special and more comfortable.
2nd	Most parents seemed happy with the one-on-one meeting with the student.	The connect and assess day was more beneficial than open house. With parents assigned a time, we were able to properly greet them and introduce ourselves without other parents or families wanting our attention at the same time, which often happened at open house. I was able to get to know the students personality and some academics as well. Great experience for students and teachers, first day seemed easier for students as well.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
2nd	I heard all positive comments from my parents and how personalized it was vs. open house that is so busy and chaotic.	I loved it and hope we can continue it into the future! I finished all of my DRA and fluency testing with my students. Normally this takes me 6 weeks to complete when I have all of my students in the classroom. Now, I am able to move ahead with reading groups right away and my students are going to receive 6 more weeks of targeted learning!!! That is so exciting and will definitely benefit the students! Please consider continuing this in the future!
2nd	Appreciated the time, all-around conversation re: their 2nd grader and the efficiency behind taking care of 'all the paperwork.'	This was a valuable couple of days. Gleaned much from both student and parents. Much better than parent info night. We ran our parent night smartboard slideshow on chromebooks at each teacher station. Also accomplished volunteer registration, etc.
2nd	Time well spent!	Valuable!
2nd	"It was so nice to get to know you before school starts."	
2nd	Parents said they enjoyed the time they got with the teacher and it was beneficial for their student>	I learned a lot about my students and made connections with students I might not have been able to make at a typical open house! I was able to assess students to be able to be more prepared for reading and math instruction.
2nd	no comments really	great- got to know students more one on one and did not feel stressed during DRAs. Great chatting with parents one on one too!
2nd	Parents seemed to appreciate the one on one time and less "chaos" that often occurs during open house.	I LOVED the opportunity to connect with families and students one on one. All families were able to complete necessary forms, I was able to answer questions, and I had the opportunity to recheck DRA levels with all of my students. When the kids all showed up on the first day, I felt like I knew them a little bit - much more so than when they all come in at once on open house night.
2nd	parents loved having one on one time with teachers.	We LOVED this set up!! Hoping we can continue each year. :)
2nd	Parents loved it. I had many comment, "This is so much better than open house where everything is so crazy."	LOVED IT!!!!
2nd	Many parents said how much they loved it. So less stressful than open house. Felt like they got to know the teacher and their child was excited too.	LOVED IT! More relaxing and was nice to talk to parents for more than a few minutes. Got to know students so much that the first day I knew all their names while they were standing in line to come into the building. That has never happened in the past.
2nd	All good comments except 1 who has 5 kids - 3 kids at RO and thought she had to bring them each separately.	Awesome! I was able to read and talk with all the kids!
2nd	"I really liked it" "Less chaos"	Same as parents.. slower moving, organized, I actually knew my students' names and one special thing about them on the first day of school!

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
2nd	Parents commented to me about liking this system because it was calm and easier to talk to their teachers.	I loved it! I felt like it was a great way to get to know my students before the first day!
2nd	All parents seemed to love it!	It was great!
2nd	great - nice to have time with teacher and room	I appreciated the time with my students!
3rd		
3rd		I was skeptical about how this time would be beneficial, but I ended up loving it. It was great to connect with parents and the students before school. I think it eased parent and student worries.
3rd	Parents seemed to like the individual time and chance to get paperwork done and money turned in. Volunteer sign up was very successful as well.	LOVED this! A relaxed start to the school year, great way to get to know students better right away, get a couple assessments done, give important info to families, and make connections! Never have had 100% attendance at an open house or curriculum night in 22 years, so that is a huge positive as well. Would like to do it again next year.
3rd		excellent!
3rd	None of my parents commented on connect & assess.	I enjoyed it. It was nice to have some one on one time with each student before the school year started.
3rd	parents liked the time to talk one-on-one before conferences	loved it! I loved being able to spend time with each student and family. I loved getting a jumpstart on fall assessments. Ideally, I would love to start school a week earlier. Do 2 days of connect and assess and 2 days of school and have labor day weekend to recover from the long days and prepare for a "regular" week of school. I would much rather start workshop and school earlier and get out earlier in the spring.
3rd	Many parents mentioned it was less chaotic and that they enjoyed getting more time to connect and ask questions.	I like that it was less chaotic than open house and that I had the chance to more easily connect with students. I felt like I already knew all of my students before they even came in the door on the first day of school.
3rd	The parents like the one on one time with the teacher.	I loved the one on one time with the families.
3rd	I had an email that a parent sent stating how much they enjoyed the new format	I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet with each child as well as the parents. It was a very relaxed setting. I would like to see the long day change to 9-7 like SunPath tried. I would also like to see the first time slot be a prep time to prepare. I had to come in at 7:40 to be sure to be set for my 8:00a.m.
3rd	nice, not so rushed	I really liked this format. The days were long, but it was nice to actually get a chance to chat with families a bit, rather than trying to quickly smile at all 26 families at a brief open house. Parents were able to ask any questions, and teachers were able to have one on one conversations with the students. Only recommendation would be to go to 25 minute time slots vs. 30.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
3rd	Parents said they liked having time for asking questions or sharing info about their child. Open house is sometimes too chaotic to do so.	VERY GOOD. I feel like I started the first day already knowing my students. It was also beneficial to have time to do some assessments that are normally done during the school day. I was able to connect more with families than I am able to at open house.
3rd	Parents loved getting to come in and have time to meet me inside of having all the other parents in the classroom as well.	I believe this was a great time to have with families. As a new teacher to the district, I was able to spend more time meeting my families and getting to know my students. On the first day I felt ready to go because I had the connect days with them. Not having to worry about doing a DRA with 22 other students in the room is awesome too!
3rd	Loved that it wasn't crazy like Open House is. Liked that their child had 30 minutes one on one with their teacher.	LOVED having 30 minutes one on one with each student! Much better than Open House. *Difficult with only one translator per language in the building. They seemed to have a big back up and I felt bad for them. *Tuesday was a very long day! Here at 7:30 am left at 8:00pm.
3rd	They liked this so much better than the chaos of open house; all were positive comments	This was a GREAT way to begin the school year--I felt like I got to know so much about my students and was able to help them get their school supplies put away and connect with families right away. It made going into the first day of school so much easier.
3rd	Parents commented they didn't get to help their child unpack their school supplies (we didn't have time with all the assessments) and also why we wouldn't they still get to come to Open House because there is an excitement to it and more time to just be in the building.	I really enjoyed the opportunity to focus on one student at a time, rather than finding busy work to keep my class quiet while I try to complete the assessments throughout the first 3 months of school.
3rd	Several positive parent comments!!	
3rd	I think parents liked feeling like they had TIME with me and their child without the craziness of open house.	LOVED IT!
3rd	Parents commented on how it must be long days for us and they feel bad. They also commented on how nice it must be to have these days to assess.	I loved being able to have the time to meet with each student individually and also get to know the parents. I do feel I could have done the Connect and Assess in 20 minutes. 30 seemed like to long for what we had planned to do. Also, the 10 hour day felt VERY long. Wondering if we could shorten to 20 minute slots and only 8 hour days.
3rd	Parents liked the 1-1 time	LOVED it! Would prefer to have the 2 days before Labor Day for C and A then start school after Labor Day.
3rd	Much less hectic than open house.	I liked it. Gave us an opporunity to interact more personally with students and parents.
4th	"It was nice to actually be able to talk to you and not feel rushed."	

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
4th		10 to 8 was too long of a day. I enjoyed the C & A days rather than the flurry of Open House and the poorly attended parent information nights.
4th	Parents seemed to like it- They said it was better to "actually be able to talk to the teacher, instead of feeling bad for so many people talking to the teacher at one time during Open House night".	I LOVED IT! I felt like it was nice to be able to connect with both kids and families before school starts. It was nice to get some assessments out of the way, and have the data to right away. Maybe the 2nd day (the one right before the first day of school) have as a 1/2 day 7:30-12:30...It felt a little rushes after the last connect conference to get ready for the first day of school. I could also do more hours the first day 7:30-7:30, instead of the late start.
4th	Many families commented on the more relaxed pace when compared to the flurry of activity at open house. Several families expressed their appreciation for getting the time to visit me individually about their child more than what would normally be the case.	I absolutely loved this new format! So much emphasis is placed on building positive relationships. I felt that every single one of my meetings with families was beneficial for the student, the family, and me. I learned so much about my kids before the first day of school. It guaranteed that my first contact with families was meaningful and positive. The Open House format did not allow for much of this. I think it will help down the road when I need to make a call home about behavior or academics that might not be as positive. I've already been able to build a foundation for a positive relationship.
4th	Overall parents loved it! I did not receive any negative comments!	Connect and Assess really helped to build an initial relationship with families compared to open house. I really enjoyed being able to focus on one family!
4th	A parent commented that she liked this event because it was more personal than Open House and she felt her child would be more ready for school.	I feel like I know my students' needs and personalities earlier than in previous years and this gives me more time to meet those needs. Also, with no Open House to prepare for, I felt like I had more time last week to learn about students, prepare my classroom, collaborate with teammates and reach out to special education and EL teachers. I would definitely like to keep the cluster help by specialists as this was a friendly way to greet and assist parents.
4th	Parents said that they Loved the before school time to meet, ask questions, and set goals.	Loved the days!!! I felt like Day 1 was a good start due to our meetings. The playground round-up before school seemed faster today!!!

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
4th		It was nice to have the private 1:1 conversations with the parents and especially the child. I was really able to set the stage for the year and get to know the kids on a level that would otherwise take much more time. Being able to get simple, individual assessments completed was such a benefit because we will not have to take that time away from their school hours. With the good, there was some tricky stuff. With so many students, the days did get really long without much of a break to even get to the bathroom. It was also a bit different to jump right into teaching the next day without being able to sort through all the information and process everything. It was great to get so much of the paperwork back immediately. I am missing only a couple pieces!
4th		really enjoyed these days.
4th	A few parents did not understand the purpose for connect and assess, others liked the idea and how it will enable us to start working with students on specific needs sooner.	I would like to still have an open house/meet and greet type event in addition to the Connect and Assess. Prior Lake does this and it has worked well with my children as they go in for assessments having already met their teacher and feel a bit more comfortable/less anxious.
4th	The parents loved this instead of open house.	This was great!!! Got to meet and talk to each student.
4th	Feedback I received was that it helped students to feel more comfortable and confident beginning the school year.	Excellent opportunity to begin building positive relationships with students and families. Individual appointments enable families to provide more specific information/insights regarding their learner. One downside of the PTCFAST system was not receiving notification if an appointment time was changed the same day as the appointment.
4th	They liked the personal interaction before the first day. "My daughter was nervous coming today, but is excited for the first day of school now"	I liked it much more than the "Open House" format. I felt a week ahead in knowing my students before the first official day of school. It also provides a better transition from summer into the school year.
4th		I really liked having a calm time to meet parents and students. I felt like I was better able to connect to the students, and parents were given a better opportunity to ask questions and fill out all the required paper work. I was really thankful that Ed Spring was up and running so that test was taken care of during those days. It is nice not having to fit that into the schedule the first few weeks. I found the days very beneficial.
4th	I received many parents' positive feedback! Not one negative comment!	I LOVED this opportunity to get to know each student individually before the first day of school. What a great way to make connections and build relationships before school even begins! I feel as though it helped the students ease back into school too.
5th		
5th		

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
5th	Parents liked connecting in a smaller setting-more private and felt we could talk freely	I enjoyed meeting students and parents and felt a more meaningful connection at the beginning of the year.
5th	Parents seemed to like the ability to talk one on one with the teacher right away to address any concerns they may have.	I really appreciated the slower pace so I could connect with the student and parents. I felt like I made a much stronger connection with parents than with open house.
5th	It was fantastic! It gives kids and teachers that one on one personal time to get to know their students/teacher. It was not hectic like a normal Open House and I feel it eases the students nervousness.	
5th	Much calmer. Good to be able to talk to the teacher.	Hands down, this is so much better than Open House, PIN, etc. However, those of us with large class sizes felt it was difficult to have two VERY filled days of exhausting/wonderful meetings with families and then turn around and try to start teaching for the next two days. I think that there could have been better communication with parents and teachers as to the format, but it was a first time for everyone. I think the amount of paperwork that parents filled out was a bit much, but it was also nice to have much of collected on those two days. Maybe mail paperwork to families or have them complete things electronically at home.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
5th	Parents said it was nice to be able to help get their child set up for the school year and start on a success. They said at Open House they often don't get to talk much with the teachers because so many families are in the room at once. Then on Parent Information Nights it is a basic overview of the grade level. Many face to face interactions do not happen until November conferences. Another parent said it really helped ease a lot of anxiety about the new school year and nervousness. They got to sit and meet the teacher and see the classroom, ask questions, etc...	I cannot tell the district how much I truly appreciate and value the Connect and Assess Days. I myself can say based on the "Assessment" portion: By doing Ed Spring Fluency right before school started I bought back at least 4 days of instruction for Reading Workshop. Many days are taken up trying to get all the students called up 1:1 to do this assessment. The students are kept with busy work to keep them quietly working while I do this assessment. We have not done much curriculum yet in reading yet so it often is difficult to give them things to do. With this being done and getting a gauge on their fluency, along with the MCA and MAP scores I have a good place to start students at in a Guided Reading Group right away along with some Independent work at a level for them. Also, getting Ed Spring out of the way allows me to get my Reading MAP scheduled the day the window opens. I am knocking that out right away and getting going on our school year. As far as the "Connect" portion of the day that seemed to be a very beneficial focus. This was something of great importance to me. Many students coming into 5th grade have different emotions from other years because it is their final year of Elementary School. There are also differences in the day to day routines such as switching for subjects, introducing band into the schedule, and more responsibilities. I was able to sit down with each student and talk with them about their interests ,what they like about school, what they were hoping to achieve and experience this upcoming school year, and I even
5th	All parent feedback was positive. They liked that it wasn't as crowded and that students and parents got some one on one time with the teacher.	Overall the experience was great. It was a long first day, but well worth it and much nicer than trying to meet and connect with all families at an open house. One change I would make is to keep the time with the homeroom teacher sacred. Students that have special education teachers, ESL services, or speech services lost some time with the home room teacher and those meetings felt rushed. Maybe have those teachers meet with students and their families after they meet with the home room teacher. Often these are the families that teacher need to make the most meaningful connections with and unfortunately the time was cut a little short.
5th	good	This was a good way to meet the students and their families. We had a chance to talk, plus get all that paperwork taken care of without having to beg to get it returned.
5th	Parents loved the one on one time meeting with teachers and completing all paperwork at once.	I think it was awesome! The amount of time was perfect and I truly enjoyed meeting my students before the first day!
5th	Parents seemed to think it was valuable.	

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
5th		Enjoyed the time really getting to talk parents. Will save me time during the school day to focus more quickly on curriculum.
5th	FANTASTIC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	It was seriously amazing. Helped so much to get these assessments out of the way and have the opportunity to meet each student!! I have nothing but positive feedback for this experience! Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity!! It was outstanding and my fingers are crossed that it will continue!!!!
5th	Parents liked it and were very positive. It was nice to do the paperwork at school and they liked that it wasn't as crowded.	Maybe do 9 hours each day. The first day was a bit long. Also, I'm not sure if only emails were sent but it would be nice to have a parent phone call put out to ask parents to sign up. I had 8 students who didn't sign up and only 1 eventually signed up due to my email. It was phone calls that got some of the remaining people to sign up.
5th	I had many parents say that they enjoyed having the conference	I loved it! it made the workshop week not as stressful and I felt like I already knew the kids on the first day of school.
5th	A few of my parents commented that they appreciated being able to speak freely about their child's needs one-on-one with me right away.	Connect & Assess days were much better than Open House! I appreciated being able to meet the student and his/her family one-on-one without other distractions. I VERY much appreciated being able to assess the students...I'm going into the school year having a better idea of where each student is at more than ever before! Let's continue this in Shakopee!
5th	Parents liked it and got to share a lot of information about their child with the teacher.	I loved it! I knew so much about my students on day one and we were all more comfortable and aware of each others needs and expectations from day 1!
5th	Parents commented they really liked having time to meet teacher and get questions answered.	I liked it. It would be nice if we could set up ELL, SPED and HP testing to be done with students that need to be looked at during those days so that we don't have to wait 2 weeks to get started with SPED, ELL, and HP. Students of concern we could set additional time with. All in all I really enjoyed getting to meet with students and parents and make connections.
5th		Good! I thought it was great to have this time to connect with learners and families and gather some useful information on the students right away.
5th		loved getting to meet and understand who my students were individually as well as getting a brief picture of ability level in reading and math It was tough having my last appointment last up until 4pm on the day before school started. It left no time to handle materials used & collected for connect & assess.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

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5th	Liked filling out forms at school while child was tested.	I loved it- have never had a 1/2 hour before with each student!
5th	Parents loved how simple the session was. One parent did mention that she wished students were starting school on Tuesday (day after Labor Day) instead of on Thursday.	I loved it! Great way to start the school year!
Early Childhood	One parent said it was nice to not feel rushed and ha	I think one change I would recommend is designated times for each section to come in because it was hard not knowing when you were going to have students arrive or not arrive. I had 13 come in between 9:00-10:45 on Wednesday but then in the afternoon time slot I didn't have any.
Early Childhood		For early childhood, I'd prefer to have scheduled times as I had a lot of downtime that felt wasted.
Early Childhood	I had multiple parents say they liked the time frame they were given since schedules are so busy. They also	
Early Childhood		I felt that this time was very valuable for both the families and myself. In the future, I'd like to have the times scheduled if possible. I had a great turn out though!
Early Childhood	At CFC, our days were held more as a meet and greet/open house type event, because it is difficult to get a	
Early Childhood	They liked having a time to meet the teacher in a cas	I would prefer if they had a choice of times so we knew how many people to expect and weren't bombarded with families all at once. This would help spread out the families.
Early Childhood		It went well
Early Childhood	Parents enjoyed having the chance to come in and n	I thought it went very well.
Early Childhood	Wanted night options	Would work better in smaller increments of time, parents felt they could mill around for an extended period of time. Still didn't have much time to talk to families, because when there was a rush, there would be several families in a classroom at once, creating the same problem as open house. If possible, a sign up time for families, like conferences, would perhaps be more ideal.
Early Childhood	Would like an evening opportunity.	Would be nice for parents to have an evening session to attend. Also, would like parents to sign up for a specific time or time slot so we don't get bombarded with parents all at the same time.
Early Childhood		I am part of the Early Intervention team. The connect and assess days did not do our team any good, and really seemed to throw off our whole week. We struggled to see many of our families this week because we only had 2 days to see them all. We would like to opt out of being a part of the connect and assess days and just have regular work days to see our families. Thank you :) Katy
Kindergarten		I loved being able to meet my kinders one on one and to be able to assess them without distractions.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Kindergarten	"We love this! It's so much nicer to have one on one time to talk with the teacher." "We like this a lot better than Open House."	It was SO much better than Open House! I had a chance to not only assess (which for a kindergarten teacher at the beginning of the year is HUGE to not have to do while keeping 20 others occupied). I was able to meet and greet each child and family and really give my full attention to them. Open House feels chaotic to teachers and families alike. I also think it was a huge benefit to those students who are nervous or have anxiety. I saw much smoother transitions on the morning of the first day and I think it's because they got to spend time in the classroom with me one on one the day or two before. I would love to see this continue in the future!
Kindergarten	Parents (especially in K) were SO happy to have this time one to one with the teacher. Many loved not being rushed, getting to know the teacher, and being able to fill out need forms. Many parents felt that their child would be more at ease for the first day of school.	I absolutely loved the connect and assess days. I was able to get baseline data in both reading and math and enter in data. I was also able to spend quality time with the student and parents regarding questions about school. (This was always so rushed during open house) The first day of school was SO smooth as more students felt comfortable. I was able to talk and remember student and parent names during drop off. I used the entire 30 block of time with all students except a few who had previous Kinders but all together I hope we continue to do this in future.
Kindergarten	Parents liked the opportunity to meet us one on one before school to ask questions and to ease their child's anxieties.	I feel that it allowed me to set the foundation for a positive relationship with the families because I got to spend time with them individually and not in the chaotic atmosphere of a typical open house. Also, for kindergarten students who are new to school it helped ease their anxieties about school and meeting their teacher. During open house you usually don't get the opportunity to have a conversation with each student. It was also beneficial to have the time to assess kindergarten students on some basic concepts before school instead of trying to accomplish this during the first few weeks of school when kindergarten students aren't able to be independent while you are testing. That is a more stressful testing environment for the teachers and the students.
Kindergarten	I had a parent tell me that the 30 minutes helped ease their kindergarteners nerves.	It was great to meet families individually and build that relationship. I love that my students were assessed in quiet environment with minimal distractions. Kindergarteners are not independent enough at the beginning of the year. The two days were very long, and I felt more frazzled at the end after meeting with parents, collecting forms and activity fees. I don't have a solution, but maybe the organization piece will get better in years to come.
Kindergarten	This was so helpful. We really appreciated getting to spend this time with you.	This was WAY better than open house. It was great to be able to assess the kids before school started.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Kindergarten	The parents I spoke with loved it! They said it is so nice to connect with the teacher one on one.	I very much enjoyed Connect and Assess. I really feel I made some beneficial connects right away. I felt I could spend more time answering parent question, especially on a kindergarten level.
Kindergarten	Good, love it, easier than open house, nice to get to ask questions and have the attention of the teacher. One parent commented on liking to hear curriculum at PIN night- but was thankful that I sent a welcome packet home with a lot of classroom information.	Loved it!! I had all of my parents sign up and show up on time. The only one that didn't show up, is out of the country on vacation. I was able to get all of my baseline data collected (language arts and math) on all of my students except 3 of them. I was also able to get a name writing sample and had the students draw a self portrait. I did not need the 30 minutes for most families but it was nice to not feel rushed and have some flexible time in between conferences. Some showed up early and if i was finished, I welcomed them into the classroom. I know we had information saying that there would be teachers available in certain parts of the building- I heard some elementary schools had the non-classroom and specialist teachers have tables set up for helping throughout the school.
Kindergarten		
Kindergarten	Our K parents know no different...unless they have older children. They didn't seem to mind...really had no comments good or bad about connect and assess.	I don't think we needed a 1/2 hour --- 20 minutes would be fine. Also, we cannot do so many back to back as they were scheduled. Some people were doing a whole morning or afternoon or whole day practically without any breaks and that is exhausting. (They scheduled parents over blocked out breaks.)
Kindergarten	Parents loved the time to meet with me one on one	
Kindergarten		It was a better way to start the year. The last few years our Kindergarten team chose to do individual conferences instead of the open house (because that's how much we believed it was better for our students) but we used to have to do them workshop week after our normal hours. This was much easier and nicer.
Kindergarten	Work to get siblings in different grades together	It was great!
Kindergarten		I thought Connect and Assess was much more beneficial and personal than an open house!
Kindergarten	Great	
Other role	Loved having one on one time with the teacher.	Loved getting the paperwork out right away.
Other role		It was great to be able to meet with parents briefly to discuss EL services for the school year. We were able to get the majority of the parent permission slips signed.
Other role	Parents were extremely appreciative of the time. I h	LOVED it! It was great for the staff and a positive experience for the students and parents.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role		This was a very positive experience from everyone I have worked with on this day, from both teachers, students, and parents. In the past, the traditional open house night is very busy, crowded, and stressful. This year was much more relaxed and stress-free for everyone. The students got to have one on one time with their teacher to ease any anxieties they may have had. Now coming into the first day of school was much better for the students. I highly recommend doing this again. It would also be nice to have a place to share ideas of what worked well for some grade levels.
Other role	I just guessed at a number for the 2 questions above	I was able to connect with parents and talk about the English language needs of their child. I was also able to get the state/federal mandated notification forms signed. I believe that Jackson could have used another (so there would have been 2 in the building) Spanish interpreter to help with forms. I thought this was a great idea.
Other role	I had parents comment on how much they enjoyed it	over open house.
Other role		Physical Education Teacher- didn't see students but helped classroom teachers.
Other role		I thought it was fantastic! I liked the structured times with parents vs an open house.
Other role		
Other role		It was wonderful seeing teachers spend so much one on one time with each student at the beginning of the school year.
Other role	Continue to have Maya/someone available to translate	As a SPED teacher, I really enjoyed these days. I think my students felt better on the first day of school because they had already met their classroom teacher. I was able to still connect with all of my families either before or after they met with their classroom teachers. I also am thankful we were provided with due process time as this is a heavy part of our role. It was nice to be supported by admin in this area of our jobs. This is a highly valued versus being assigned to a cluster or hallway duty job. I hope we will continue to have this time to complete these tasks during connect and assess days in the future. Also-- I am so glad Maya was available to help translate and support a family of mine with filling out forms. I know they appreciated it too!
Other role	Appreciated time to talk to teacher	Felt so much more relaxed and less stressful
Other role	This was wonderful. We actually got to talk with the	Definitely worth keeping. So beneficial for families!!! Need to make some adjustment with how the specialists are assigned. Just some tweaking.
Other role	The time spent with the teacher was great! It's not as	Great time to connect with families and students! Maybe have an option be 8-6 instead of 10-8. 8:00pm is very draining on the body when you have to be back there at 8:00am the next day.

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Other role		As a specialist (and a new teacher to the district), I was able to provide support to two different grade levels and both of my buildings and was able to introduce myself to many students and their families. I really wish this was the model for all elementary schools in all districts. As a parent, I would have really appreciated this.
Other role	Parents seemed to like the chance to meet the teachers before school started and get kids settled with more of a personal touch.	If we were to do this again, I would suggest a technology help desk and or have the PTO there with some information for parents. Maybe work with a local church to get an easy dinner served in the lunch room to help entice more families to come (not sure how many actually came from each classroom)?
Other role		As a district physical therapist, this year's connect and assess days were very helpful for me. It was very beneficial to have the students come in early with their parents for a brief uninterrupted conversation. It was also incredibly helpful to have the staggered start this year, with secondary starting school the day before elementary.
Other role	parents loved being able to quickly share specific child info one-on-one.	Maybe consider holding it in August before school starts, have it last 45 minutes instead of 30 so that teachers can do DRA's during that time, LOVED seeing kids before school started--great rapport already created and many nerves calmed!
Other role	I am a media specialist. At Eagle Creek, we helped parents in the Learning Commons get connected to Infinite Campus, set them up on Seesaw and sign up to volunteer using the Chromebooks....parents were very appreciative of the assistance, and I believe the overall feeling was good. At Red Oak, I helped in the 5th Grade learning cluster. I assisted parents with completed paperwork while their children were being assessed. I heard nothing but great comments about how nice it was to meet the teachers one -on-one.	I have not ever been in a school system that has done these two days in this way. I think it was a great idea, and it was much less hectic. I would be interested to see if our students' test scores improve based on last year due, in part, to a less hectic beginning to the school year.
Other role	Parents I talked with thought it was better than open	Teachers felt they knew student names before day 1.
Other role	I like this better than open house because I get to tal	Teachers seemed more relaxed and knew their students already on the first day of school.
Other role		I thought it was a good use of our time as it was a nice way to connect with the families on a one-on-one situation. This gave an opportunity to have more personal time for questions, in addition to more time to focus on the student's reading and math skills without distractions or other things going on in the room. This is something that I would recommend continuing with years to come in Shakopee.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role	Parent - "This is nice! It's nice to be able to get all of	The same amount of "office related" questions were asked or even more, but they were spread out over 2 days rather than just 2 hours. Parents have an opportunity to share sensitive "need to know" information about their child without having multiple families in ear shot of them.
Other role		I know it took a great deal of extra effort on the part of our secretaries to make numerous calls to get students scheduled. However, those calls paid off. We had a tremendous showing of our EL and intervention families. In the past, we had very few families who came for PIN Nights. I also really appreciated all of the staff who were willing to support our teachers by helping parents complete paperwork. They really helped make families feel welcomed and supported. As an EL teacher, I appreciated having the time to connect with my families and to be able to have time to contact districts for information from previous districts and to forward ACCESS scores of our students who had moved. We have much more information on our students BEFORE the students come. I think Connect and Assess was a HUGE success and I hope we continue to do it.
Other role	Many parents asked for help since I was sitting in a d	I am a speech therapist so I don't have many comments about it. I heard other teachers say that the 10 hour day felt very long because there was often breaks between parents.
Other role	N.A.	I think that connect and assess was a much more affective way to get to know students than open houses. You get more personal time with the students.
Other role		I think it was great to get that 1:1 time with students and parents. It was organized and quiet, allowing for more personal connections.
Other role		
Other role	Parents commented that it helped with their child's a	I loved the opportunity to connect with parents and students prior to school in a calmer environment than open house! It gave parents and students more opportunities to ask questions and feel comfortable about the school year starting!
Other role		Even though I am not a classroom teacher, this provided me the time before students come to clarify and change the status of students making the start of the school year much smoother!
Other role	I heard good things	I think this was a great idea!!
Other role		As an intervention teacher and former classroom teacher, I found the connect and assess days very beneficial to teachers and students.
Other role	Parents liked the cafeteria setup... "one stop shop".	

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role		Coordination of interpreters; perhaps the sessions needing an interpreter could be scheduled in advance of opening the online registration. Or maybe a roving interpreter and one by the office. Parents appreciated the help filing out forms.
Other role	I loved it. As a specialists, it was fun to see familiar faces and welcome them back and have more time to connect with them and also greet new faces and show them where they needed to go.	
Other role		I felt the connect and assess days were a very positive experience. In the past, I rarely had anyone stop by my room during open house. It was nice to have meaningful conversations that built a personal connection right from the start!! I felt this was far more effective than a beginning of the year phone call!! Hopefully the general education teachers didn't feel that we were in the way, I said 'hi' to the student and then just spoke to parents when they were in the cluster. It worked very well! It made workshop week far more enjoyable, less rushed, less stressed, yay!
Other role	Liked to meet and greet with new teachers and share/meet with sped teachers	
Other role	"It was nice to have private time with the teacher to calm my child down." Also, I heard a teacher make a personal connection to a child as she greet her at the door. My guess is the teacher had time to look in the cumm folder and greeted the family individually at the classroom door. Awesome start to the year!	This was AMAZING! the school started in a calm way for everyone. Paperwork is taken care of for the most part and kids were more comfortable entering school on the first day. It was nice not to see teachers scrambling to discipline other children, or trying to prevent an unsupervised toddler from writing with marker on the whiteboard. People were happy and calm!
Other role		Most teachers I spoke with thought it was a good thing. As a specialist, it was nice to check-in families and connect with them more deeply a few at a time. In the past, during Open House, I would usually only get to wave hello quickly as they passed in the hallway.
Other role	Parents seemed to enjoy the extra time they got to meet with their child's teacher	seemed to run smoothly. Those that were in the clusters helping had a lot of downtime.
Other role		For planner money collection I would have rather had a main hub up and down to take care of three grade levels, with more rotation in workers.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role	Parent 1: It was easy for me to schedule a time because I didn't have to take off work. However, I can see where it could be difficult for some families where both work during the day.	I was in the hallways meeting families as they were going into classroom or learning the classroom. Most families had filled out paperwork filled out I was asked to give them. So I was almost there as a greeter. :) Some (not many) had some difficulties finding their rooms. Signs to specific pods or floors with each grade level might be beneficial. iPads did not work for filling out the Red Oak volunteer application. Most of the families I filled it out and then it wouldn't submit, or they had to do it at home.
Other role		It was a very relaxed environment for both staff and families. Much different than the huge influx of families trying to find rooms with all other families at one time.
Other role	The parent told me she was so excited to be able to talk to the teacher one on one since that is so hard to do during Open House.	I think it was very beneficial for the classroom teachers to not only meet their students before the first day but also the families. I also think it's great that they were able to assess students ahead of time.
Other role	no	It might be nice to include picture day for students as part of the connect and assess days. That way, parents see the pictures right away and probably minimize the number of picture-retakes. Other districts have done that and parents seem to like it. Just a thought!
Other role	it would have been nice to have all the sizes of sample t-shirts	no
Other role	"Less stressful than open house."	I like that the parents had time with teachers to ask questions, and each student has time with their teacher one-on-one. I'm not sure how many of my EL students attended, because they did not all stop by. From initial discussions with classroom teachers, it sounds like most attended.
Other role		The teachers and students loved the connect and assess! . As a teacher it's amazing to spend 30 minutes with each student. It may never happen again throughout the school year. It made Thursday so much smoother for everyone. Kids seemed less anxious and overwhelmed than previous years. Please continue this practice.
Other role	As a speech pathologist, we were able to talk to parents about concerns they had with their child's speech. It was such an amazing way to connect right away and get some kids some help at the beginning of the year. Parents commented on how helpful it was and appeared very happy.	I loved the Connect and Assess days. The building was calm, it was wonderful to talk with parents 1:1 and engage with students in a calm environment. It was nice to hear how the summer was for students and be aware of that right off the bat. It was very valuable.

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role	Parent comment who moved to Shakopee--"Great way for their child to meet his/her new teacher on an individual basis. It was not as overwhelming as a whole group open house and/or back-to-school night."	I thought it went very well for it being the first trial year.
Other role	Parents like the opportunity to meet with staff before conferences without feeling rushed. Speech students & parents stopped to greet the SLP.	This was an outstanding offer to our families- hopefully it will continue.
Other role		I think the Connect & Assess days were successful and a good use of time. As a non-classroom teacher, I would like to have a more productive job next year. I was in the cluster to help parents fill out paperwork and collect money but parents didn't really need help and they gave their money to the classroom teacher. I think it would also be nice to have a centralized location where parents can go for extra things like volunteering, PTO, support services, food service, etc.
Other role	Good	I thought it was wonderful for students, especially kindergarten
Other role	Numerous positive comments about amount of connect time as compared to the traditional open house model.	From a special education perspective, just as we have had issues with appointment changes for parent teacher conferences, same issue with parents changing appointments and Case Managers being unaware. It is very difficult to track the numerous teachers/students appointments when parents are able to make last minute changes. I recommend signup genius closing/locking in schedules the morning of the appointment. Parents would be required to call the office for schedule changes.
Other role		Walking in two classes at a time for lunch has been working very well with the younger students. Perhaps Teachers can remind students about line basics before studentss are sent out to recess. Would love to know how to address students who have difficulty walking respectfully, It was challenging last year to follow up with students whom had defiant behaviors, time was of the essence. Thanks
Other role	Parents seemed to mostly like it.	I think we may need to have something for siblings to do while they wait. For some it got a little long. Can we also look at needs for staff that are not classroom teachers?
Other role	1 parent comment that she liked it	It was a great way to ease into the school year, meet new students, and connect with parents

September 2018 Connect Assess Parent and Teacher Comments

Grade	Please enter a parent comment or two - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)	Do you have any comments - good, not good, changes, etc.? (optional)
Other role	"LOVE this. I feel like I'm heard..." "I don't have to wait to visit with the teacher until conferences, I can see her now".	I thought the atmosphere was positive, calm, and time to meet with the teachers, put supplies away, do paperwork was appropriate. Parking was not an issue, which was a plus. We (support teachers) could help and answer questions when needed and weren't rushed.



Shakopee Public Schools 2018-19 School Calendar

Updated April 23, 2018

NOTE: Tokata Lng. Ctr. First Day of School: September 4, 2018

NOTE: Grades 6-12 First Day of School: September 5, 2018

NOTE: Grades E-5 First Day of School: September 6, 2018

August 2018

August 20-23.....New Teacher Fall Workshop
August 27-30.....Teacher Fall Workshop

September 2018

September 3.....No School - Labor Day
September 4, 2018.....Student 1st Day of School (Tokata ONLY)
September 5, 2018.....Student 1st Day of School (Grades 6-12)
September 6, 2018.....Student 1st Day of School (Grades E-5)
September 4....Moving Day for Staff (Grades 6-12)
September 4-5.....Assess & Connect Days (Grades E-5)
September 26.....Student 2-Hour Early Release

October 2018

October 17.....No School - Teacher Staff Development Day
October 18-19.....No School - Fall Break

November 2018

November 8.....1st Quarter Ends
November 9.....No School - Teacher Planning Day
November 21-23.....No School - Thanksgiving Break
November 28.....Student 2-Hour Early Release

December 2018

December 20.....No School - Early Childhood Education Only
December 21-Jan 1.....No School - Winter Break

January 2019

December 21-Jan 1.....No School - Winter Break
January 21.....No School - Teacher Staff Development Day
January 25.....1st Semester Ends
January 28.....No School - Teacher Planning Day

February 2019

February 15.....No School - Teacher Staff Development Day
February 18.....No School - Presidents' Day Break

March 2019

March 13.....Student 2-Hour Early Release
March 28.....3rd Quarter Ends
March 29.....No School - Teacher Planning Day

April 2019

April 1-5.....No School - Spring Break
April 19.....No School - Students & Staff
April 24.....Student 2-Hour Early Release

May 2019

May 27.....No School - Memorial Day
May 31.....Senior Class (12th grade) Last Day of School

June 2019

June 6, 2019.....Student Last Day of School
June 7.....Teacher Work Day
June 8, 2019.....Graduation

August 2018

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

September 2018

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

October 2018

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

November 2018

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

December 2018

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

January 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

February 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	

March 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

April 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

May 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

June 2019

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

Key

	No School - Students and Staff
	No School - Students
	First/Last Day of School
	Quarter/Semester Change
	Student Early Release 2-Hours before Dismissal