



## **Important Educational Updates from DFS September 2023 What You Need to Know....**

***You made it through the first few weeks of school! Way to go!  
Thank you for all you do for your child(ren)!***

### **Contact Your Child's School Foster Care Advocate and/or CCSD's Foster Care Department to Introduce Yourself/Your Children for Support**

- School Based Foster Care Advocates (FCAs) are assigned on each school campus to help families and children involved in foster care to navigate school services (they are sometimes called Children in Transition Specialists)
  - To find out who your FCA is and get their contact information, ask your child's school office or principal
  - Introduce yourself to your child's FCA. Let them know if there are anything that helps your child get through the school day, how to contact you, and how you might be able to help the school in your role as caregiver. Proactively reaching out to your FCA will help your child tremendously to get the right supports and to ensure your child has a familiar, friendly face on campus to go to for any struggles.
- CCSD also maintains a Foster Care Department to assist schools and help families with foster care related educational issues that schools may not be able to solve or for issues families are having with schools
  - *To contact CCSD's Foster Care Department, please email [fostercaretransrequest@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:fostercaretransrequest@nv.ccsd.net) or call 702-799-1196.*
- For schools outside of CCSD, contact your child's school office or principal to find out who the Foster Care Liaison is.

### **CCSD Launches "Let's Talk" to Provide Parents with Timely Responses to Questions/Concerns**

- Let's Talk provides the community with access to more than 20 Departments across the school district. Anyone can submit questions, comments and concerns via any device 24 hours a day/7 days a week.
- *To access Let's Talk, visit [CCSD Lets Talk | Clark County School District](#).*

### **Contact Your Child's Educational Decision Maker (EDM), Caseworker, and CAP Attorney if your Child is RPCed, Suspended or Recommended for Expulsion as Your Child May Have Special Rights in the Disciplinary Process**

- Parents/EDMs have a right to appeal a suspension over 3 days or a recommended expulsion. This right should be explained by an administrator when the discipline is discussed with the parent. The administrator should take note of the parent's wanting to appeal and provide the parent with the next steps in the appeal process.
- Schools are supposed to provide education for a child who is removed from school for more than 2 school days
- If your child is suspended for 5 days or more, your child has a special appeal right because of being in foster care. In determining the discipline, the principal in consultation with the Foster Care Advocate or School Counselor is supposed to determine if your child poses an ongoing threat on campus and if being in foster care was a factor in the behavior relating to the incident. The discipline may stop or change based on the determination.
- DFS is working to track new disciplinary laws passed in 2023 and see how they affect our children so we can support you individually and systematically
- ***It is very important that you contact your child's Education Decision Maker (EDM), Caseworker, and CAP Attorney to let them know if your child was: sent home; RPCed, suspended, recommended for expulsion, not given educational services while out 3 or more days. Please also ensure the EDM, Caseworker, and CAP Attorney knows of any disciplinary meetings you are contacted about so they can follow up with the school. They will represent your child and ensure your child's educational rights are being upheld.***
- ***It is also helpful if you are able to get any paperwork related to the disciplinary incident and provide that to the EDM, Caseworker, and CAP Attorney as well as connect them with school administration for follow up.***

### **CCSD's Back to School Guide Now Available**

- Each year, CCSD releases its Back to School Guide for parents. The Back to School Guide goes over important information for the school year and easy-to-access telephone numbers for follow-up.
- ***To view the Back to School Guide, visit [Back To School \(ccsd.net\)](http://ccsd.net)***

### **School Meals are Available for All Children for the 2023-2024 School Year**

- Student in Foster Care are eligible for school years at no cost to parents throughout their time in foster care; however this year all students will be provided with meals due to a grant
- Families can view the daily menus online at ***MealViewer Schools.***

***If you have any issues with the above or any other school related issues, please contact your child's caseworker or DFS Representative.***

***DFS has various supports in place to help work through any school related issues. We are here to support you and can't do what we do without you!***