

Planning Your Child's Return to School

The following resources may be helpful for families with children with disabilities as they return to school for another year.

For additional support, please reach out to the [parent mentor who covers your school district](#).

New school year and routine:

Returning to school in those first few weeks are hard adjustments for everyone, but for some students' transitions are tougher. Consider what has been difficult in the past and what activities you do at home to prepare your child for a change.

[Transition From Grade to Grade - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

Behavior is communication:

Before a child learns to communicate verbally, they might use behavior as their communication.

[Behavior is Communication - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

[PBIS - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

Self-advocacy:

Self-advocacy is a critical skill a child needs to achieve their goals, increase self-sufficiency, and become a successful young adult. It is a lifelong process that begins with your child learning by watching their parent be a good advocate.

[Self-Advocacy - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

[Sample Self-Advocacy Plan \(pacer.org\)](#)

[How Can My Child Be Involved in the IEP Process? \(pacer.org\)](#)

[Self-Determination - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

[One-Pager - I'm Determined \(imdetermined.org\)](#)

IEP:

Parents are a child's first and best advocates. Parents can help set the example for their child with effective communication skills. Parent and professional communication may take time, energy and effort to establish and be a great benefit to your child's education.

[IEP Topics - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

[Parent Advocacy - Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

[Introducing Your Child to the School Community Using a Student Snapshot Format \(pacer.org\)](#)

[Introduction Letter to Give Teachers \(understood.org\)](#)