



## Commitment to the Journey

Strengthening partnerships between families and schools is a journey that requires reflection, leadership, and shared ownership. The Family Friendly Schools process supports early care and education programs, schools and districts in building sustainable systems where families and educators work together to support student success.

Before beginning the certification process, district and school principals and program directors participate in an introductory session and complete the Family Friendly Schools Readiness Guide to ensure the conditions are in place to begin this work.

By signing below, we acknowledge our commitment to beginning the Family Friendly Schools journey. After completing this form, we will receive links to join the next available cohort launch.

### **We understand that Family Friendly Schools is grounded in these core beliefs:**

- All families have dreams for their children and want the best for them.
- All families have the capacity to support their children's learning.
- Families and school/program staff are equal partners.
- Education leaders play a critical role in cultivating strong family-school partnerships.
- Programs and schools must create systems that ensure every child and family is known and supported.
- Programs and schools deserve a clear framework that makes family partnership work visible, valuable, and aligned through continuous improvement.

### **We acknowledge that Family Friendly Schools is built on a process that includes:**

- Leadership commitment and shared ownership
- Authentic partnership between families and educators
- Research-informed tools and implementation supports
- Cycles of reflection and continuous improvement
- Alignment of family partnership efforts with student learning
- A certification process that recognizes meaningful progress and impact

**As we begin this journey, we commit to:**

- Exploring ways to strengthen partnerships between families and educators
- Establishing a Family Friendly School/ Program Action Team that includes a building administrator, educators and family partners
- Engaging in reflection, learning, and improvement over time
- Participating in opportunities to learn with other schools and districts
- Using the Family Friendly Schools process to guide meaningful change in practice

In signing below, we indicate that we have attended introductory sessions and assessed the school's readiness to begin the Family Friendly school process. We understand and commit to this continued journey to improve student outcomes through deepened family partnerships.

**District Leadership (if connected with a Kentucky school district)**

District: \_\_\_\_\_

District Leader Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Principal or Program Director**

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Friendly Schools Team Lead (if identified)** - If principal or program director, write "same as above"

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_