



JANUARY 2022

HEAD START NEWS

Easterseals Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Arnessia King

I want to say Happy New Year! January is a fun month because it is all about coming back to school and reuniting with our friends and teachers after a long holiday break. Parents can help us during this time by praising kids with positive reinforcements by saying, “your friends missed you” and “your teachers are waiting for you with new surprises and more”. I really hope your children enjoyed their Christmas presents that were donated by the First Baptist Church and Helping Hands with God, Auxilium Manus DEO. There will be no school on January 17, 2022 as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday. Just remember my office is always open for you to schedule an appointment to discuss any issues. See my contact information below.



CONTACT US!

CDS: Arnessia King

Cell: 386-507-1761

Family Advocate:

Robyn Walker

386-956-3883

Classroom Phone Number:

Ms. Kathy & Ms. Danna 386-624-1772



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Early Release Jan.5,12,19,26 @ 1:30,
No school Jan. 17
Parent Meeting TBA



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

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Connected!



@MFCSHHeadStart



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Robyn Walker

Welcome families to a new and exciting year. We are looking forward to working with you to complete a successful School Year. Dental care is very important for our children's health. We encourage you to stay up to date with your child's dental appointments and follow-ups. If you have not already done so please turn in the verification of dental exam.



A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 1

Home visits will begin in February. We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and welcome back to school from the winter break. This month the color is blue and shape rectangle. The letters are M, N, O, P. The math cards are making a pattern, what can you build with blocks, and which is smaller, which is bigger. This month theme is Imagine It, Make It. We will be learning that art inspires children to create. This will help the children feel more confident in what they make. I would encourage you to create art with your child like sing along, dance, and paint.



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

No one attended the parent meeting. Please attend the next one to be involved with what's happening at the center.



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

To create something out of a box or pretend play with your child. To get their creativity flowing and make them confident in their artwork.

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

December Policy Council met via Zoom on December 16, 2021. Quorum was established with 13 community reps present. Heidi Rand, requested a change to the agenda to place Denise Mercado, Inclusion Coordinator on the agenda to present a training on Inclusion. Denise explained the process of the Inclusion Team reviewing every screening conducted on children and then reviewed with families and referred when needed. The inclusion team educates parents on the entire referral process to empower them to advocate for their child. If a child is under 3 they are referred to our partner Early Steps. If the child is over 3 they are referred to our partner Fiddlers on the Hernando County side and Child Time in Volusia. These partners come directly onsite and work with the teachers and child in the Head Start classroom. The Inclusion team also goes directly into the classrooms to observe students and work with teachers to assist with strategies and material usage through modeling. Denise mentioned that a higher number of children on the autism spectrum are being seen and due to this the inclusion team is being proactive and going through an autism spectrum navigator training through UCF to provide the highest quality support. The November meeting minutes were approved. Amy Thomas, Deputy Director of Children's Services, introduced Michelle Hann the new Education Manager for Hernando/Sumter County. The Budget and Credit Card statements were approved. The Enrollment, Attendance and Snack reports were approved. Tanya Hall, Deputy Director of Program Services, presented the Recruitment Action Plan and was passed. Heidi Rand presented and discussed the Temporary COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, and Face Covering Policy. She stressed that this is a temporary plan and subject to change and be put on hold based on any changes from the Office of Head Start. Following an open discussion the vote was 8 yes and 6 no. The majority passed the temporary policy. Seth Williams, Health Manager, stressed that all of our regular health prevention strategies and our procedures with students currently in place would not change if the temporary COVID-19 policy is to be implemented or put on hold. Heidi Rand presented the Criteria for Selection of Children for 2022-2023 program year and was passed. Staffing Reports were presented for information purposes.

All Service Area and Center Reports were presented and approved. Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, January 27, 2022.

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

[Not a Box by Antoinette Portis](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=PMCKXaFsmCA)

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