



JANUARY 2022

# HEAD START NEWS

Highland Early Head Start Newsletter



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## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: *Jennifer Tinstman*

Happy New Year 2022! I hope you had a wonderful holiday break!! We are happy to see all of your smiling faces again at school. We wish you all an awesome 2022 and look forward to the exciting events to come throughout the rest of the school year.

Studies show that it is important for children's healthy development to have daily routines to follow so we all need to get back to their daily schedules and routine, so that the children continue to move forward in their learning. They have made so much progress since the school year began. Thank you in advance for continuing to make school attendance a priority.

As January begins, I wish all of you a Happy & Healthy year ahead! When thinking about New Year's resolutions, please make school participation and family involvement in our meetings and activities one of your priorities. Your school family and your child(ren) will be very happy for your involvement and support!



## CONTACT US!

CDS: Jennifer Tinstman | (386) 235-4480  
Family Advocate(s): Robyn Walker  
FA Phone Number(s) Office: (386)-281-3600  
Cell: (386)-956-3883  
Classroom Phone Number: (386)-281-3600  
Extensions:  
1: 2201  
2: 2202



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 17 (Friday) In-Service/Student Holiday  
December 20-January 3 (Monday-Monday) Winter Break  
EARLY RELEASE DAY - 1:00 PM Dismissal January 12, 2021



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

Let's Get  
Connected!



## 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**  
**MS. MICHELLE & MS. JANIS**

Happy New Year!

We will be learning about feelings and expressing how to change that frown ☹️ upside down . The older children are taking it a little further and using language development and pictures to show how they feel.

Classroom 1 Ms. Michelle and Ms. Janis

**CLASSROOM 2**  
**MS. MARLA & MR. HECTOR**

Happy 2022!

We will be learning about Paper: what kinds, what can we do with it, does all paper feel the same, where does paper come from...? These are questions classroom 2 will be exploring this month.

Classroom 2 Ms. Marla and Mr. Hector-



## HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Your Center is in need of a Policy Council Representative. Please consider this special opportunity to get involved with your child's school.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Homework will be sent out twice a month. Please enjoy doing these activities with your children. We would love to see photos or videos of the activities, which you can upload onto the teaching Strategies portal.

### 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.

[I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly - Nursery Rhymes for Kids - Kids Songs - The Learning Station](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNwmzDlyCt8&t=201s)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNwmzDlyCt8&t=201s>