



Happy Thanksgiving to All! My name is Donna Kargel and it is such an honor to introduce myself as the new Child Development Specialist Assigned to Tomoka Head Start. I have two amazing daughters that have attended Tomoka 3rd grade to 5th and this is my second year with Mid-Florida Community Services Head Start as a CDS. I started out with the company as an Inclusion Specialist. I have had the joy of working with both of the Head Start teachers and I look forward to working with you and your child. Have a wonderful holiday.

## **Want to praise your child's teacher?**

You can contact us via our website [https://](https://www.midfloridaheadstart.com/)

[www.midfloridaheadstart.com/](https://www.midfloridaheadstart.com/)

or by calling us: 1-888-277-0010

Interim Director of Early Learning Services, Tanya Hall

(THall@MFCS.US.com) the Deputy Director of Children's Services,

Glynne Pascal

(GPascal@MFCS.US.com) Please also feel free to reach out to us should you have concerns about your child(ren)'s program.

## **Upcoming DATES**

### **No School—Election Day**

Tuesday, November 8th

### **No School—Veteran's Day**

Friday, November 11th

### **Parent Meeting**

Wednesday, November 16th

### **Classroom Thanksgiving Feast**

Thursday, November 17th

### **Thanksgiving Break**

Monday, November 21st —

Friday, November 25th



Head Start

Mid Florida Community Services

Early Head Start

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Helping People. Changing Lives.



## Phone Numbers

### Classroom Teaching

#### Team:

Kim Fitzpatrick  
Yolanda Robinson  
386-624-1772

### Family Advocate:

Bernadette Flake  
386-249-4438

### Child Development

#### Specialist:

Donna Kargal  
386-337-4179



## Message from your Family Advocate

How exciting to be already in November with the feel of Fall in the air!!! I am going to share a few tips that can save you money for the upcoming Thanksgiving Family Dinner, and you can still have a great dinner, while saving money. Thanksgiving is a celebration to be thankful for what we have and also to share what we have with others. Here are some helpful tips for this upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday: 1. Family/Friends Thanksgiving Potluck-The potluck dinner is a great idea in theory: everybody brings one dish to share, and you end up with a feast. Be specific with your instructions, and make sure they're within your guests' cooking abilities and budgets. Assign a different dish to your guest, so you don't end up with three turkeys! 2. Plan the menu ahead: By planning ahead your menu, at least two weeks before the Thanksgiving Holiday. Enjoy your family and friends during the holiday.



## Classroom News

Greetings from the classroom!

October came to an end quickly with a wonderful Fall Festival parent activity. Thank you for all of the parents that were able to attend and help. We will be having another activity in November that will include a Thanksgiving feast, and look forward to sharing our songs and classroom with our parents. In November we will be focusing on the color brown, the shape triangle, the numbers 8,9 and 10, and the letters Q, U, V, I, and Z. Read to your child everyday! Thanks for all that you do!

Ms. Kim and Ms. Yolanda

## Quote Corner:

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about."

-Angela Schwindt

## Parent Meeting Minutes

Parent Meeting Minutes: October 25th, 2022 3:30pm.

**Parents:** Domeyda Delcarmen

**Teachers:** Yolanda Robinson, Kim Fitzpatrick

**CDS:** Donna Kargel

**FA:** Bernadette Flake

FA did the welcoming of Parents and Staff.

### **Icebreaker:**

If You could have an unlimited supply of one thing for the rest of your life, what would it be?

If you could hang out with any cartoon character, who would you choose and why?

**Parent Curriculum Discussion:** What you do matters! Week 4: Feelings "Topic: Social-emotional development. FA touched on why social emotional development is important for the ages that we serve. FA discussed how the early years of a child's life present's a unique opportunity to foster healthy development, along with importance of the first five years of life – both positive and negative experiences – in shaping children's cognitive, behavioral, social, and emotional development. The discussion also concluded that specific family and environmental factors can make a child more vulnerable to social, emotional and behavioral problems. One of the most important factors is that children are exposed to Promote quality child care settings that support social-emotional development and the mental health of young children.

FA did an introduction to introduce our new CDS Donna Kargel to Tomoka Elementary. Donna spoke and provided a Bio about herself during the parent meeting.

**What's going on in the classroom:** Teaching Teams in the blended Head Start classroom are Kim Fitzpatrick, Yolanda Robinson and VCS teacher Kim Mauldin. Yolanda and Kim discussed how great things are going in the classrooms. The classrooms are preparing for Red Ribbon Week and Head Start Awareness week. October 24<sup>th</sup> is hat day, October 25<sup>th</sup> Character day, October 26<sup>th</sup> is red, white & blue day, October 27<sup>th</sup> is silly sock day & October 28<sup>th</sup> is Pajama day. The Classroom is still looking for Fall Festival volunteers and parents must be registered through the front office in order to volunteer. Fall Festival is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

**Upcoming Dates:** - November 8<sup>th</sup> Election day, November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day. It was determined that Head Start will not be following the VCSB calendar for Early release due to Hurricane Ian. The days that were in effect for Early Release at the beginning of the school year is still in place.

**Questions, Answers or concerns:**—All Staff & Parents open forum for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned with no further questions or concerns. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 16th, 2022 at 1:15pm. After Early Release. This meeting will take place in person at Tomoka Elementary in the classroom.

# Policy Council Notes

**Meeting Date October 27th, 2022**

September Policy Council met via Zoom on October 27, 2022. Quorum was established with (14) policy council reps present.

Voting in new Policy Council members along with the Policy Council Chair. Krystal was nominated as chair, and it was seconded. Krystle accepted it, and it was passed.

Nominations for Vice Chair were made, Brenda was nominated and seconded. Brenda didn't accept the nomination. Another nomination was made, Jose was nominated and seconded, Jose accepted and was selected at the Vice Chair to Policy Council. Secretary nomination was up next, Monique was nominated and it was seconded, passed and she was elected secretary. Last seat is the treasurers, Suzanne was then nominated and it was seconded and passed. Suzanne is the reassures for this Policy Council executive team for this program year.

Chair – Krystal

Vice Chair - Jose

Secretary- Monique

Treasurer – Suzanne

September minutes were approved. We then spoke about the August Budgets and Credit Card statements. Early Head Start & Head Start grants reviewed and talked through. All in target with the Head Start Budget and Grant. All approved.

Review enrollment and attendance report with Jennifer Fowler. All approved.

Review Meal & Snack reports for August 2022. All approved.

EHS 3 Grant, reviewed and new roles introduced explained to the Policy Council team. EHS 3 Grant was voted on and approved.

Program instruction information memorandums. Tanya Hall began to speak about Child Incident reporting Health and Safety from the Office of Head Start. Updated Policies and Procedures, and spoke about training that took place. Along with new monitoring projects. No votes needed at this time, information purposes only.

Staffing reports, center reports information purposes only, no need to be voted on at this time.

Service area reports, all approved.

Other business and announcements discussed, simply for informational purposes.

Policy Council Member preferences discussed.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, November 17, 2022.