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

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.

From the desk of your CDs

Ronjaneen Harris, Child Development Specialist for Spring Hill Head Start

Hello parents/guardians, we appreciate your continued support in your child's education and the program. You are your child's first teacher. Does that statement scare you? It shouldn't. Do you feel uncomfortable with the term "teacher," substitute", and "guide"? Most children are more explorers than students anyway. Our children depend on us for leadership and guidance. I found this quote and wanted to share it with you: "The key to raising our kids right is: positiveness. They need to see positive, happy parents who prove that life is worth living for." According to the website, Parents as a First Teacher, family members are the first and most important influences in the learning of children at all ages. While parents are usually the strongest models and have the greatest impact; grandparents, aunts, uncles and family friends also can act as role models, aides, and encouragers. These influences are also often shaped by input from peers, neighbors, teachers and others. See, it really does take a community to raise a child. We appreciate your attendance in our parent meetings, last month's Open House, and your continued support in participating in the educational home activities.



Head Start

Mid Florida Community Services

Early Head Start

MID FLORIDA
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Helping People. Changing Lives.



Phone Numbers

CDs: Ronjaneen Harris 352-556-4800, Ext. 2209

Family Advocates:

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Classroom Phone Number & Extension (352) 556-4800

Classroom 502 Shelley Mott and Olena McCumsey (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2502
Classroom 602 Norma Padro and Lucia Quiles (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2602
Classroom 701 Sherry Harris and Theresa Scott (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2701
Classroom 702 Beth Walczewski and Salyna Robinson (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2702
Classroom 901 Amy French and Janet Thomas (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2901
Classroom 902 Theresa Nunez and Wanda Pagan (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2902

Message from your Family Advocate

We had a great time in our second Parent Connect Meeting for the month of October! Parents were able to elect all the officers and policy council representatives. Parents also voted to have the Parent Activity on April 21, 2023. This is an activity that is only for parents and will happen as children are in class. We invite you to join our meetings if you haven't and be part of what is going on in our program! The Parent Connect Meetings happen on the second Wednesday every other month at 1:00pm. The next meeting will be on December 9. Parents decided to have a brick and mortar meeting, but also have a Zoom option available. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Classroom News

Class 502. Happy Thanksgiving from Class 502! In November, it is mandatory that we conduct a Parent-Teacher conference for each of our children. Please keep an eye out for your scheduled time and day. If you have a preferred day and or time, please let us know. We look forward to meeting with you and giving you information on your child's progress at school. We are just finishing the Building Study and are beginning the Trees Study this month. This study includes learning about nature and how trees grow, why trees are so important, and what kinds of animals depends on trees. In Second Step, we will review what we have learned from Units One and Two. This includes skills such as focusing attention and listening. We will review the basic feelings of happy, sad, and angry and how to cope with uncomfortable feelings. We are learning to recognize our names in writing and out loud and identifying letters in our names. We are counting 0-20 and identifying individual numbers 0-10. We have holiday breaks coming up soon, so please use some of the above ideas to work with your children on their skills while at home. Thank you.
~Miss Shelley and Miss Olena

Classroom News

Class 602. November is a month that brings thoughts of gratitude. I have so much to be thankful for, especially being able to spend each day with children. This month will bring lots of exciting activities. One of the goals in our program is to expose the children to other cultures and different things that other families do. Our monthly theme for November is Giving Thanks, colors, and seasons all around. We will discuss about exercise, how we develop exercise each moment during the day. We will learn and review manners in English and in Spanish, (Ex. "Thank you, gracias, Please, por favor.") Also, during this month, we will have our parent conferences. We want to share how your child is growing successfully. Please let me know what day is more comfortable for you.
~Mrs. Norma and Mrs. Lucia

Classroom News

Class 701. We will begin a new study on trees. We will find out what we know about trees and what we want to find out. What characteristics of trees are in our community. We will also find out who lives in trees and what food comes from trees. We are working on identifying letters and letter sounds and counting and recognizing numbers 1-15. We are fast approaching our holiday season. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and stay safe.
~Ms. Sherry & Ms. Therese



Upcoming DATES

- *November 9—Parent Connect Meeting
- *November 11—Veterans Day Holiday
- *November 21-25 - Thanksgiving Break
- *November 28—Classes Resume

Classroom News

Class 702. We are on the way to gaining many necessary skills to enter Kindergarten next year. Our October - November study is "All About Pets", types of pets, how to care for a pet, and where you can get a pet. We are also graphing animals that make good pets and animals that do not. If you have any furry family Pet pictures, please send them in to share. The children have started spelling and writing their first names. They are learning the letters in their name, as well as letter sounds. Two topics that is are always in our day are "big feelings" and "finding solutions". We continue to guide the children to become independent and use self-help skills to navigate their environment. I would like to thank the parents for accepting me as their child's temporary teacher. Change is not always easy. My intentions are to make things flow as smoothly as possible. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me. Respectfully yours.
~Ms. Beth Anne and Ms. Salyna.
WALCZEWSKI@MFC.S.US.COM

Classroom News

Class 901. Hello from classroom 901. We would like to welcome our new friends to our class. This month, we will start the Trees Study in Creative Curriculum. We will talk about what we know about trees and what we want to find out, characteristics of trees, who lives in them, and what food comes from them. In Second Step, we are learning about accidents and caring/helping others. Please continue to work on learning skills at home to reinforce what we are learning at school. Thank you.
~Ms. Amy & Ms. Janet

Classroom News

Class 902. Welcome to November! Our class has been working on identifying letters of the alphabet and numerals 0-10. Our classroom has been wonderfully remembering classroom rules and routines. Our current study we are learning about is clothes and continuing on into the Tree Study. In Second Step, we are working on making positive choices with our peers and identifying emotions. Don't forget parent teacher conferences are this month!
~Ms. Theresa and Ms. Wanda

Home Learning / Family Engagement Activities

Counting Experiences:

Count everything! Touch the objects as you say the corresponding numbers. Count incorrectly or lose track of which objects you have already counted. Encourage children to help you find your errors.

Read counting books with your child frequently. Together, check each page to see whether the number of pictured objects matches the numeral on the page. After the objects on a page are counted, hide some of them with a small piece of paper or your hand. Ask children to decide how many objects are hidden.

Ask children to help set the table, distributing the same number of each object to each place, or ask them to tell how many more they need of something to have a particular number. Concentrate on either the number 5 or 10. Ask children to use their fingers to talk about parts of 5 (2 fingers on one hand and 3 fingers on the other hand, or 1 finger on one hand and 4 fingers on the other). In a similar manner ask children to talk about the parts of 10 (for example, 3 fingers have rings and 7 fingers do not, or 2 thumbs and 8 other fingers). (Source: Teaching Strategies, Volume 4: Mathematics, page 11)

Parent Meeting Minutes

Parent Connect Minutes 10/12/2022

Chairperson Dakota opened the meeting with introductions.

Everyone introduced themselves.

Ms. Shelly in classroom 502 talked about what is going on in the classrooms.

We talked about bringing Zoom back to next parent connect.

We will have a moderator.

Matthew Potakey gave updates from the Policy Council Meeting.

Chairperson Dakota Jacquay.

Secretary Melissa Dileo took minutes.

Vice Chairperson Nipha Socha.

Rebecca Rowe **Head Start Alternate.**

Suzanne Mcguinnes **Head Start Alternate.**

Dekeysha Durham **Early Head Start Alternate.**

Parents were informed of the days there is no school and early dismissal days.

Discussed the importance of signing in and out your children on the sign in/out sheets and computers in the classroom. When sending someone from the pickup list, they **must** show ID. If someone new is picking up your child, please inform your teacher or family advocate Rebecca Martinez introduced herself as the Behavioral Specialist and shared her job description. Rebecca informed parents of her availability.

Quote Corner:



Behind every young child who believes in himself is a parent who believed first.

Matthew Jacobsen

Policy Council Notes

Meeting Date October 27, 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.