



Want to praise your child's teacher?

You can contact us via our website <https://www.midfloridaheadstart.com/> or by calling us: 1-888-277-0010

Director of Early Learning Services, Tanya Hall (THall@MFCS.US.com) Please also feel free to reach out to us should you have concerns about your child(ren)'s program.

Phone Numbers

- Site Supervisor:
Jeamary Garcia
Phone # (352)279-2420
- Family Advocate:
Annette Gregory
Phone # (386)681-7662
- Teachers:
Ms. Lorraine & Ms. Olga Center:
Deltona Lakes rm:101
Phone # (386)681-7617

From the Desk of your Site Supervisor:

The safety of your children is always the most important aspect. We are super excited to have your children attending daily in the classrooms here at Mid Florida Community Service, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start. The education of your child is very important and you ensuring your child's attendance to school daily; helps to prove how important it is to you. Here at Head Start/Early Head Start we thrive on the education of your child and feel it is important that these first years of school for your child are stimulating and happy. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you might have so that we may know your child better and work with him/her more effectively. I especially want to assure families that phone calls to the school are always welcomed. You may call at any time to check on your child, especially if he/she had a difficult time separating from you. Just be aware that the teachers are busy interacting with the children and may not answer the phone right off. Please follow the prompts and leave a message, they will get back to you as soon as they can. Thank you again and welcome to the Head Start/Early Head Start Family. I would like to share that September is "Baby Safety" month.

~ Pamela Fernet



Message from your Family Advocate

A Message from Ms. Cassandra, FA

Welcome Back to School!!!

I hope that each and every one had an enjoyable summer. We missed the sounds of laughter and learning from our students! We had our 1st Parent Meeting for Deltona Lakes Elem. HS on August 22nd. The turnout was AWESOME!!!! Many THANKS to the parents and staff that were in attendance and helped with making decisions on the date and time of future meetings and the selection of two center officers. Please congratulate Karla Parker, mom of Owen, who will be our Chairperson and Kinaisha Rivera, mom of Kai'Lani, who will be our Secretary!!! Parents, we are still in NEED of CENTER OFFICERS. There are two more positions: **VICE-CHAIR** and **POLICY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**. Please read over the flyers that describe the duties of each position and come to our September Parent Meeting. We Need Your Vote and Voice to represent DELTONA LAKES HEAD START! Our next meeting will be presented VIRTUALLY on September 26th at 3:00 pm. Hope to see you there!!

E-Book Suggestion

- *The Adventures of Gary & Harry*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdmX_fXWBWs
- *Peeny Butter Fudge*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nCmonhNIUY>
- *Jalapeño Bagels*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vv-8j2Xwt0>



Classroom News

Deltona Lakes rm: 101

Welcome Parent/Guardians to Deltona Lakes Blended classroom. We are happy that you're here with us. We look forward to helping you and your child this school year. The teachers in this classroom are dedicated to getting your child ready for their educational career by setting a strong foundation. Your child will be learning the daily routine of the classroom, following class rules, identify letters beginning with their name, counting, and how to manage feeling with a curriculum called Second Step. In our class we will be using The Creative Curriculum and will be studying different topics every four weeks. This month we are doing the study of clothes. The teachers will also be assessing your child to see where they are educationally. If you have any question please feel free to call the classroom, text or email.

Parent Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2023 @ 2:00 – 3:00

Virtual for First Meeting

Information on Selecting Center Officers, Policy Council Representatives and Center Meeting

Times and Date

Staff: Cassandra Givens Hajj-Mak, Family Advocate

Site Supervisor: Pam Fernett, Interim Site Supervisor

Educational Staff: Lorraine Almodovar & Olga Maldonado

Parents in Attendance: Davina Burgess, Kinaisha Rivera, Josefa Gonzalez, Sa'Tera Washington Stefani Carolina Ortiz, Yarita Roque, & Karla Parker

Welcome and Introduction:

Ms. Cassandra welcomed and thanked parents in attendance for coming to the 1st Parent meeting at Deltona Lakes. There were many parents that were able to attend virtually and FA thanked them for their time and willingness to participate. So those in attendance stated that they would like to change meeting time, date and format of meetings. A majority of the parents in attendance stated that they would be open to having the parent meeting between the hours of 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm and in the Zoom Meeting format due to the scheduling of other family obligations. All parents spoke and agreed about meetings. The center meetings will be held virtually on the third Thursday of each month. The FA stated that she would be willing to send notice of agreed meeting day (ie: Thursday) and time (ie: 3:00 pm) to the center parents by email. Due to the shortness of time of the first meeting, the FA explained the process of selecting officers for the center and stated that if anyone is interested in any of the positions--Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and Policy Council Representative. The Chairperson and the Secretary was selected at this meeting. FA encouraged other parents to please reach out to her by the next parent meeting in order to vote and select the rest of the center representatives. FA stated that she would have a duties list for them to review and encouraged them to become involved in our operation and understanding of Head Start at the center.

FA thanked the parents in attendance for turning in requested health information and other paperwork in a timely fashion and she stated that she will always try to inform them of items that are needed in plenty of time so that their children will not miss out on their time in school. FA stated that she sent out Parent Handbooks by email to those in attendance and encouraged them to read it. Ms. Cassandra gave a brief bio about herself, and invited the staff and parents to introduce themselves. Ms. Lorraine, Ms. Olga and Ms. Pam gave short bios of themselves. Ms. Lorraine also informed parents of upcoming Home Visits that the teachers will be conducting and encouraged them to speak with them about a convenient time to visit. Ms. Pam, Interim Site Supervisor, introduced herself, and stated that she would be available to them if they had any questions. Ms. Olga introduced herself and stated that she was excited about the new school year. Many of the parents that attended also participated in the "Getting to know you" exercise. FA asked parents if they had any questions, comments or concerns about the center, or how their child was doing in class. The parents stated that they had no other questions. Meeting was adjourned at 2:56

Family Engagement Activities

Familiar Faces:

As children develop trusting relationships with important adults in their lives they are more easily able to interact with new people and in new environments. It is important to familiarize your child with the adults that she will encounter regularly, and to help him/her learn to feel comfortable when you and he/she meet unfamiliar adults.

Materials: construction paper; markers; tapes; photographs of adults who work at your child's school, neighbors, or friends; binder.

What to do

1. Tape photos of each person to its own sheet of paper
2. Talk with your child about the people in the photo. Show them the photo of adults
3. Ask your child what each person does. Write their ideas in a sentence or two under the adults picture.
4. When finished bind the book together
5. Read the book regularly with your child to help them become more familiar with the adults he encounters regularly.
6. Explain to your child that the book will be on the bookshelf for her to read whenever they choose

E-Book Suggestion

- *The Adventures of Gary & Harry*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdmX_fXWBWs
- *Peeny Butter Fudge*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nCmonhNIUY>
- *Jalapeño Bagels*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vv-8j2Xwt0>

Mark Your Calendars

- Early Release: 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27,
- No School: 9/4 Labor Day,
- Parent Meeting: September 14, 2023 @3:00pm



Policy Council Notes

Meeting Date August 24th, 2023

August Policy Council met via Zoom on August 24, 2023. Quorum was established with (9) policy council representatives present.

June 2023 Policy Council minutes were approved.

Welcome and Introductions presented by Tanya Hall, Director of Early Learning Programs. Michelle Hann, Education Manager for Hernando and Sumter County was introduced.

Budget and Credit Card reports reviewed by Tanya Hall. All approved.

Enrollment and attendance report reviewed by Jennifer Fowler, ERSEA Manager. All approved.

Meal & Snack reports for May & June 2023 reviewed by Seth Williams, Program Manager. All approved.

Information Memorandum reviewed by Tanya Hall. All approved.

Policies and Producers reviewed by Tanya Hall. All approved.

Staffing Reports & Acceptance of Service Area Reports reviewed by Tanya Hall.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, September 28, 2023.

