



Coleman Head Start

May 2017 Issue 9

From the Desk of: Jennifer Fowler, CDS

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter. Our preschool year is winding down and many of our preschoolers will be off to kindergarten in the fall. Remember, going to school is a natural progression for children and most will be very ready to go. To help your child look forward to a new school, be sure to talk positively about attending kindergarten. Talk often about making new friends, learning new things, growing up, and becoming a “big boy or girl.” Plan to attend your school’s orientation with your child, visit your public library and read, read, read to your child over the summer months. Head Start “transition bags” contain some terrific ideas for learning new things and having big fun.

We thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. We have enjoyed working with all of the children in our care and have seen growth, development and skill acquisition in all of the boys and girls. We have also witnessed how the children have grown in the way they deal with frustration and the care and concern they express for one another.

Thank you for being your child’s first and most important teacher and working with us on behalf of your child. We thank you for your support throughout the year. We feel a close partnership with our parents and send you our best wishes.

Hooray for preschoolers!!! We appreciate your support. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

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Dates to Remember:

- **Parent Meeting:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 @ 2:15 p.m.
- **Arts on the Grow Museum Night:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 @ 5-7 p.m.
- **Family Engagement Activity:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 See teacher for time of Event
- **Early Release:** Wednesday, May 17 & Wednesday, May 24, 2017 @ 1:00 p.m.
- **Last Day Celebration:** Friday, May 26, 2017 Early Release @ 12:30 p.m.

Classroom 1:

Dear parents and Guardians:

We cannot believe we are already in May and only have a few more weeks before the end of the school year. This year went too fast! Once again, we want to thank all of you for playing a huge role in your child's education.

During the month of May, our themes will be, "Let's Make Music" and "Creative Expression". For these themes, the children will be pretending to be directors, announcers, and singers as they put on their own musical concert. The children will also be sorting instruments, reading books about music, and creating patterns using different rhythms and movements. For our nutrition activity, we will be doing a fun hands-on activity as we make our own strawberry smoothies.

We will continue with the Second Step Curriculum and focus on managing our strong feelings. We will also finish our "Art on the Grow" projects. The children will continue to transition to kindergarten as we continue to serve cafeteria style meals. We will also be watching a video about kindergarten and will visit the Orange City Elementary School on May 18th, 2017. Once again, it was a pleasure for us to be in your child's life this year. We wish the best for you and your child's future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Diana Diaz/Mrs. Mary Heilborn

Classroom 2

Dear parents and guardians,

Wow, it's hard to believe we are already in the last few weeks of the school year. We had the youngest group of children, many of which, were just two years old when they walked into our classroom this year, and it has been such a pleasure watching them grow and learn. Ms. Maria and I want to thank your family for the opportunity to work so closely with you and your little ones. We truly hope that this first school experience has been a wonderful introductory to school and that your little ones will continue to grow as they move onto their prekindergarten classroom next school year. With that said, for the remaining weeks of our school year, we will review our ABC's, numbers, and focus on social/emotional skills such as playing fairly with our friends. Our last day of school will be May 26th and we will be having our classroom celebration program along with classroom 3, Ms. Olga's class, to celebrate all of the fun we have had this year. Our theme for our end of the year program will be "Under the Sea". Please dress your child in their bathing suits and shorts and after their performance, we will be walking to "Veterans Memorial Park" to enjoy the water park and eat our picnic lunch.

Please don't forget our "Arts on the Grow Museum Exposition Night" scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th, from 5:00-7:00p.m. Your child's art pieces will be displayed for everyone to admire. There will also be refreshments served. We hope to see everyone there! We hope everyone safe and fun summer and hope to see everyone back next year.



Susan & Maria

Room 3

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Can you believe that we are already in May and our Head Start school year will be coming to an end soon? We are both excited and sad! During our last month we will be very busy as we review our ABC's, numbers, and our calm down chants. Our last day of school will be May 26th and we will be having our classroom celebration program along with Ms. Susan's class to celebrate all of the fun we have had this year. Our theme for our end of the year program will be "Under the Sea". Please dress your child in their bathing suits and shorts and after their performance, we will be walking to "Veterans Memorial Park" to enjoy the water park and eat our picnic lunch.

Please don't forget our "Arts on the Grow Museum Exposition Night" scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th, from 5:00-7:00p.m. Your child's art pieces will be displayed for everyone to admire. There will also be refreshments served. We hope to see everyone there! We hope everyone safe summer and hope to see everyone back next year.



Mrs. Arias / Mrs. Erika Brenes

Room 4



Dear parents

May is here! The year is coming to an end... We would like to take this time to thank you for the opportunity to let us be part of your child's learning process and trust in us. It has been a challenging year with many laughs and good memories that will stay with us and some will go on with your child. For those stepping up to Kindergarten, we wish them the best, for those coming back, we will see you in August. Have a great summer and stay safe!

Ms Nichole – Ms Sandra



Family Advocate Corner

Dear parent,

**Thank
You!**

for participating at the parents' meeting.

* To my rollover parents (returning children), soon I will set an appointment with you to do the rollover packet for the next school year 2017-2018.

* For the parents of our future kindergarteners, I have the Volusia County School registration and orientation information. If you don't know what school your child is assigned to, please see me.

* Finally, we are now taking applications for the new school year (2017-2018) for 3 and 4 years old. Please call us for an appointment, and I will let you know what documentation you need to bring and give you an appointment.



to: Katia Medina Robles for winning the 13" Glass Birdbath with collapsible metal stand; Shandrika Riggins for winning a crochet blanket and to Iris Rosado for winning a book.

Your Family Advocate, Migdalia Vega, (386) 774-0423



Queridos Padres,

GRACIAS

**por participar en la reunión de
padres.**

* Para mis padres de los niños (as) que regresan el próximo año escolar, pronto les voy a dar una cita para llenar los formularios anuales del próximo año escolar 2017-2018.

* Para los padres de niños (as) que se van para la escuela, yo tengo la información de registración y orientación para las escuelas publica del condado de Volusia. Si usted no sabe a qué escuela su niño (a) está asignado (a) déjeme saber y yo le puedo ayudar con eso.

* Finalmente, ya estamos tomando aplicaciones para el próximo año escolar (2017–2018) para niños (as) de 3 y 4 años. Por favor llámeme para hacer una cita y le dejaré saber la documentación que tiene que traer.



a: Katia Medina Robles por ser la ganadora del
13 "Glass Birdbath con soporte de metal plegable; a Shandrika Riggins for ganarse la frisa
tejida y a Iris Rosado por ser la ganadora de un libro.

Su Representante de Familias, Migdalia Vega, (386) 774-0423



- **Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)** What is the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)? The Equal Credit Opportunity Act, or ECOA, protects consumer rights throughout the loan process. Lenders cannot discourage you from applying for a loan based on certain characteristics. The ECOA promotes the availability of credit to all creditworthy applicants without regard to the factors (also called prohibited bases) listed below: Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex
- Marital status
- Age
- Receipt of public assistance income (the fact that all or part of the applicant's income is derived from a public assistance program)
- Exercise of rights under the Consumer Credit Protection Act (Example: You cannot be denied a loan because you have filed a complaint against the bank.)

What type of restrictions does ECOA place on lenders?

ECOA restricts the lender from requesting certain information during the loan application process.

In general, the lender may not ask:

- For information about a spouse or former spouse unless your spouse is applying with you. If you are applying for unsecured credit, the lender cannot ask about marital status. If you do not qualify on your own, lenders may require a cosigner or guarantor, but may not require that it be your spouse. If you are jointly applying or if the loan is secured, the lender may ask your marital status, but can only use the terms married, unmarried, and separated.
- For income derived from alimony or child support unless you want it considered as part of your income. The lender cannot discount or refuse to consider consistent part-time income, annuities, pensions, alimony, or child support payments.
- About birth control practices or intentions of having children. However, a lender may ask about the number and ages of your dependents.
- About whether you are male or female. Courtesy titles (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.) can be requested, but these are optional.
- For your race, color, religion, or national origin.

Are there any exceptions?

Yes. In most cases, lenders are prohibited from requesting the information above. However, for home loans, lenders are required by the government to collect some of the information (race, sex, marital status, and age).



Mid Florida Community Services, Incorporated

Head Start

Coleman

Parent Meeting Minutes

04/11/2017 at 2:15pm

1. Welcome

- Ice Breaker Game: Color
- Pledge of Allegiance
- April parent's meeting minutes in May's Newsletter

2. New Business

- (1) Policy Council Report by Katia Medina Robles

3. Important Dates:

- Field Trip: Children's Museum in Daytona Thursday 04/20/17
Classroom 1 & 3
- Field Trip: Children's Museum in Daytona Friday 04/21/17
Classroom 2 & 4
- Family Engagement Activity: Thursday 04/27/17 @ 10:00am.
- Parent Training: Education 05/04/17 from 7:30am. – 8:30am. by
Jennifer Fowler
- Kindergarten Transition Meeting Th. 5/4/17 @ 2:30pm. -
Kindergarten Teacher here
- Teacher Appreciation Week: from Monday 05/01/17 - Friday
05/05/17.
- Next Parent Meeting: Tuesday, 05/09/17 @ 2:15pm.
- Art on the Grow – Wed. 05/17/17 from 5:00-7:00pm. at the Art
Museum in Deland
- Last Day of School for the children is Friday, 05/26/17 – Early
release at 12:30pm. for non-extended day children.

4. Service Area Reports:

- (1) CDS (Jennifer Fowler): No parking on the grass. The parking
in the back is for the staff only.
- (2) Teachers: CR.1 Kindergarten field trip walk to Orange City
Elementary School is on Tuesday 04/18/17. Children will have

lunch in the cafeteria at 10:30am. The children are learning about planting, social emotional, ways to use your hands, all the ways that we can move, butterfly life cycle and spring time. Also, children will start practicing cafeteria style meal as of tomorrow.

* Family Advocate (Migdalia Vega): To my rollover parents (returning children), soon I will set an appointment with you to do the rollover packet for the next school year 2017-2018.

* For the parents of our future kindergarteners, I have the Volusia County School registration and orientation information. If you don't know what school your child is assigned to, please see me.

* Finally, we are now taking applications for the new school year (2017-2018) for 3 and 4 years old. Please call us for an appointment, and I will let you know what documentation you need to bring and give you an appointment.

5. *Guest Speaker: Carmen Diaz, from Healthy Start*

6. *Announcements / Questions / Comments*

(2) Migdalia (FA) raffled a 13" Glass Birdbath with collapsible metal stand winner: Katia Medina Robles; a crochet blanket (courtesy of Healthy Start) winner: Shandrika Riggins and a book (courtesy of Jennifer Fowler) winner: Iris Rosado.

- 19 parents attended
- Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Policy Council update for March 2017

The April Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, April 27th at 9:30 am. It was a face to face meeting at the Holiday Inn Express in Leesburg, Florida. Eleven policy council members (9 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

Fourteen persons were approved for hire.

The following reports were approved/accepted: February 2017 Budget, January - February 2017 Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center.

The MFCS Annual Audit was reviewed by Program Director, Heidi Rand. There were no findings. Policy council members were encouraged to review the document and advised that additional copies could be made available upon request.

A review of the Community Wide Strategic Planning and Needs Assessment was led by Carol Coffie, Assistant Director of Early Learning Programs. The review included the process for data collection and a summary of the 828 survey responses. The top five needs identified by parents include Child Care, Transportation, Employment, Dental Care and Housing.

Policy Council members approved the following revisions to the By Laws:

*EHS will have representation on Policy Council
Centers with more than 5 classrooms can have an additional representative on Policy Council
Policy council to meet at least 10 times per year*

Policy council members were asked about their training needs. Any future training interests or needs should be sent to Heidi Rand.

Heidi Rand provided the following update about the Early Head Start (EHS) Expansion:

*Classrooms at the Jo Sheppard site and the Hernando Head Start site are being renovated and are expected to be completed by mid-June
Additional EHS Classrooms will be renovated and opened later in the program year
EHS training for managers has been scheduled for early May
Training for teachers, family service and health service members is being coordinated for early June.
Attempts are being made to coordinate a CDA credential training for anyone interested in being an Early Head Start teacher
All classrooms at Pathways Port Orange location will become Head Start/ Early Head Start classrooms as of 2017-18 program year*

The following announcements were made:

Applications for Early Head Start and Head Start for 2017-18 program year are being accepted

Week of May 1st is Teacher Appreciation Week

Note of thanks was given to Juan Echezebal, Rocio Renteria and Adelani Adekunle for being a part of interview teams for Early Head Start/Head Start positions

The next Policy Council meeting date will be announced.

Names and location of new hires:

Hernando:

Rachel Mackey – EHS Teacher

Elsie Burnett – EHS Teacher

Desiree Isnardi – EHS Teachers

Margaret James – EHS Teacher

Jeananne Wright – HS Teacher

Sumter: None

Volusia :

Kishmar Peterson-Family Advocate

Michele Ashley – Compliance Specialist

Carlene Morgan – School Readiness Specialist

Melanie Pridemore – Program Substitute

Lorri Tipper – Teacher Assistant

Caitlyn Festari – Full Time Extended Day Teacher

Angela Merriweather - Teacher

Maribel Maneilla – EHS Teacher

Ashley Shaffer – Disability Services Specialist