



Deltona Lakes Head Start Newsletter

December, 2017



From the Desk of:
Jennifer Fowler, CDS

Holidays can be a time when parents decide that doing things with their children will be a priority and they will use the time to get to know each other and enjoy each other's company. Children love doing things with parents. Try to arrange some individual time with each child if you can, as well as family time - this helps build good relationships and helps your children's self-esteem.

Remember, children do not need to be entertained all the time. Just a change of place or a few suggestions can help them to be very creative on their own. Sometimes saying "I'm bored" is another way of saying "I want you to play with me", and sometimes the child has not even started to try to think of what to do by themselves.

Happy Holidays to everyone & enjoy this time with your family!!



☺ School Closures:

Winter Vacation, 12/21/2017-1/05/2018 Classes Resume on Monday 1/8/2018

☺ Parent Meeting:

☺ Wednesday, 12/13/2018 @ 2:05

☺ Family Engagement Activities:

☺ Wednesday, 12/ @ 12:45-1:45

Family Advocate News



Welcome December!

We want your family to feel warm and healthy during this season, so we will suggest a few stores:

Goodwill: You can buy second clothe and items in good conditions.

Once upon a child and Oodles, OC: You can sale and buy second clothe and items.

*Remember, you can look your local holiday's events for a free Santa's pictures and family outings.



SANTA'S NORTH POLE:

The City of Deltona will host its annual Santa's North Pole event on **Saturday, December 9 and Sunday, December 10, 2017** at City Hall in the Commission Chambers from **2:00-6:00 p.m.** Where a large display of decorated Christmas trees can be seen and provides for lots of photo opportunities. Craft is provided to entertain the children as they wait to meet and take their photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

CHRISTMAS PARADE:

The City of Deltona will host its Annual Christmas Parade on **December 16, 2017** at **6:00 p.m.** on Deltona Blvd. Please come celebrate and be a part of the many marching bands, local businesses, clubs and more as we get together to show how Deltona has the true holiday spirit of giving! Parade entrants are asked to donate unwrapped toys to be given back to the community. We are looking forward to hosting what could be the City's biggest toy drive ever! Come celebrate the season with Deltona!

For more information on the event, call Scott (386) 878-8624 or email deltona-parade@deltonafl.gov

Hope you all have a wonderful Holidays break!

Nelly Ann Pagán

Family Advocate

Today is your day! Your classroom is waiting... Get on your way!

Inside Story of Classroom 1

By: Ms. Susan, Ms. Sue, Ms. Maria & Ms. Nancy

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! Our theme for this month will be "All About Animals". We will discuss pets, pet care, and begin to think about what animals need to survive, what they eat, and how they move. We will pretend to be veterinarians and learn through play as we turn our dramatic play into a mini pet-care center. We are in the holiday season, so we are encouraging our little ones to talk about how they spend their holidays with the families. Please talk to your child about some family traditions and customs so that they can share it with us in class. We learn from each

other! For our Second Step Curriculum, which focuses on social emotional skills, our class will continue to practice strategies in how to manage our strong feelings. We will also continue to learn the letters in our name and if we show an interest, we will begin writing our name. Please be sure your child has a warm set of clothing in their cubbies for cooler weather and also please write their names on all items of clothing. Thanks for all your support!



Policy Council UPDATE for November 2017 Meeting

Policy Council update for November 2017

The **November Policy Council meeting training** was held on Thursday, November 16th at 10:00 am via video conference. A quorum was established. Thirteen policy council members were present.



The following reports were reviewed and approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers.*

The results of the election of officers conducted at the October meeting were reviewed. Council members were advised that the person elected as chairman was not eligible for election to an office as he attended the meeting as an alternate and alternates are not eligible for nomination to an office. The official policy council representative from a center is the only person who can be nominated for or elected to a policy council office. The previously elected vice chairman, Sheila Ramos (Representative from Coleman Center in Volusia) was nominated to now become the chairman. There was a unanimous vote in favor of Ms. Ramos. Ramon Ayala was nominated for the office of vice chairman. There was unanimous vote in favor of Mr. Ayala.

Candidates for the following job vacancies have been approved for hire:

Hernando: Substitute Teacher III

Volusia: Substitute Teacher III, Blue Lake Elementary Blended Classroom
Family Advocate, Jo Sheppard Early Head Start
Family Advocate, Holly Hill Head Start
Teacher Assistant III, Blue Lake Elementary Blended Classroom
Substitute Teacher Assistant
Full Time Extended Day Teacher Assistant, EVEC
Nutrition Coordinator

Budget training is postponed until next month due to the hospitalization of the Mid Florida Community Services, Inc., Chief Financial Officer - Kris Bates.

A maximum of 25% for food expenses was agreed upon per Parent Activity. All parent activities have to be submitted, in advance, to the Family Advocate for forwarding to the Family Engagement Coordinator for approval. The cost of food items that serve as materials to help teach a specific parenting skill during a Parent Activity is not included in the food expense.



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The School Readiness Committee update was provided. The committee met on Nov. 15th. Topics of discussion included children arriving late at centers, behavior concerns and curriculum.

The Selection Criteria for 2018 - 19 was approved.

Special appreciation was extended to Robin Bowman from WVEC for her recent participation on the interview panel for Family Advocate interviews.

The Program Specialist from our regional office and an Early Childhood Specialist from our regional office visited several of our sites during the week of Nov. 13th. They complimented the consistency of documents on parent boards and health boards in each classroom they visited and recognized the high level of teamwork among staff.

The following committees are looking for parent volunteers: Community Needs Assessment, ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance) and School Readiness. Any parent interested in serving on any of these committees can contact the Family and Community Partnership Manager in their county. Volusia county parents can contact Cindy at 386-736-1325. Hernando/Sumter parents can contact Jaclyn at 352-754-2464.

The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14th. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room of the administrative office closest to their county.