



Deltona Lakes Head Start Newsletter

May 2018



Going to Kindergarten

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.

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



☺ School Closure:

Monday 4/28/18 Memorial Day

☺ Family Engagement:

Wednesday, 4/30/18 End of the year Celebration & Early Release

Parent Meeting:



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

Family Advocate News

By Nelly Pagan

Summer is here! Prepare to check out free books and movies at your Library.

When you apply for a Library Card at a library, or the first time you check materials out of the library after having applied for a card online, you must go to the Circulation Services Desk to present valid identification. Valid identification includes any one of the following: State of Florida Driver's License.

Library Cards are free to Volusia county residents. Visit or call your nearest branch for information on how to get a library card.

Library cards can be obtained for children with a signature on the application from the parent or guardian. (Parent or guardian must show proof of residency.) Volusia County Public Library adheres to the laws of the State of Florida in all aspects of confidentiality of records. Circulation information for minors will be provided to the parent pursuant to [Florida Statute 257.261](#).

Are valid at all branches of the Volusia County Public Library. Protect your card. Cardholders are responsible for all materials checked out on their library card. Address and phone number changes must be reported immediately by coming to the library with proof of new address. Report all lost or stolen cards immediately. All cards must be renewed every three years.

Are issued to organizations (nursing homes, etc.) in the name of the organization free for one year. Please contact your local branch for special arrangements.

Are free to residents of Brevard, Flagler, Lake and Putnam Counties. Visit or call the nearest branch for information on how to get a library card. Residents of Brevard, Flagler and Lake counties must present a library card from their home county when applying. Reciprocal library cards are renewed on an annual basis.

Limits on Loans: Library patrons may have up to 5 each of the following items checked out on their library card at any one time: Fiction DVDs, Non-Fiction DVDs and Music CDs. There is an overall 25 item per card limit.

Returns: All materials borrowed may be returned to any Volusia County Public Library facility. Outside book drops are provided for your convenience.

Circulation Information:

Books: 21 days	Express Books: 14 days
Magazines: 7 days	Audio books: 21 days
Music CDs: 7 days	Entertainment DVDs: 7 days
Instructional DVDs: 7 days	Children's DVDs: 7 days
Launchpad's and Hotspots: 14 days	

Also, don't forget to check: ***Free summer meals Volusia County**

Parents, be aware of the Free Summer Meal Programs for the kids. Please, check the closes school can serve your area.

For more information, contact the School Way Café district office at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475 or 427-5223, extension 20530.

Media Contact: Nancy Wait, director of community information www.SummerFoodFlorida.org.

Thank you,

Nelly A. Pagán Family Advocate Deltona Lakes & Woodward

Inside Story of Classroom 1

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

During the month of May our unit will be "All About Kindergarten". We will read stories about kindergarten and even visit a kindergarten class to do an activity with the teacher. We will be making our own alphabet books with the letters that the children choose to write and color. We will also be drawing pictures of objects that start with that letter. In science, we will continue to explore growing and changing as we observe the changes that take place in our planted flowers and we will continue to observe what happens to our sweet potato that is in water. We will be also talking about letters and words as we write words around the room. The children really love picking out their own

words to write.

For second step, we will be doing a unit on transitioning to kindergarten by discussing what we will learn in kindergarten and following classroom rules, riding the school bus and feeling different emotions to new experiences, and making new friends.

I want to thank all of the parents who worked with us this year to make it a successful year for all our children. We will miss all our little ones and our wishing all of

our parents and children who are going to kindergarten in the fall the best of luck. Have a great summer!

Ms. Susan, Ms. Sue, Ms. Maria, and Ms. Nancy

Policy Council UPDATE for April 2018 Meeting:

The April Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, April 26th at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg, FL. Twelve policy council members were present. Eight staff members were present.

The following reports were approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers. Details of the approved Enrollment/Attendance Report included the following:* Four Head Start classrooms in Hernando/Sumter County and six Head Start classrooms in Volusia County were reported to have fallen below the 85% average daily attendance. The main reasons for the absences were illness and out of town travel. Two Early Head Start classrooms in Volusia County fell below the average due to sickness.

New hires for the following positions were approved: Hernando: Early Head Start Teacher in Brooksville, 2 Head Start Teachers in Spring Hill and a Part-time Early Head Start Teacher in Brooksville. Volusia: Substitute Teacher (countywide), Early Head Start Teacher at Oakridge, Head Start teacher and Center Aide for WVEC, Early Head Start and Extended Day Teacher.

Director of Early Learning Programs - Heidi Rand, presented the Self-Assessment update. The summary participant information included the following: former Head Start staff, current Head Start staff, Board member, Policy Council members, community partners/volunteers and Head Start/Early Head Start parents/guardians. The self-assessment areas included Fiscal, Health, Disabilities, Education and Early Childhood Development Services and ERSEA. Strengths and action items have been determined for each area. A strength of our Fiscal Management area is a regular review of budget. In regards to Health Services, clarifying exclusion procedures and locating a provider for dental treatment are the action items. Disabilities Services strengths are as follows: timely developmental screenings, advocacy for parents of children with disabilities and meeting the required 10% enrollment. The action items for Education and Early Child Development Services are to formalize dual language learner support and repair/replace playground equipment. In regards to Family Services, we will modify systems to ensure accuracy of eligibility documentation.

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Health Services Manager - Seth Williams, presented information on **Head Start Mealtime**. Based on Head Start performance standards we provide 1/2 to 2/3 of the daily nutritional needs for children who attend the program for six hours or more. The meal components are milk, meat/meat alternates, vegetables, fruits and grains. Three components are required to be included in the breakfast meal. All five components are required to be included in lunch meal and two components are required for snack. Head Start serves breakfast to children who arrive late. Meals are served family style - child helps "set" the table and the teacher eats with the children.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for 10am on Thursday, May 24th at Hernando Head Start Admin. office and Volusia Head Start Admin office. It will be conducted via video-conference.

