



Horizon Head Start September Newsletter



The new Preschool year is underway at our Head Start/Blended classroom!

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We hope you had restful and refreshing summer break. We would like to welcome our returning families this year and give a special greeting to all of those families who are joining us for the first time.

My name is Jennifer Tinstman, and I am the Child Development Specialist or CDS for your child's classroom. Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns at any time at (386)235-4480 or jtinstman@mfc.us.com. I look forward to meeting each of you at our first parent meeting scheduled for September 5th.

Working together with you, we can build a positive and nurturing environment where your children will learn and grow as they explore and discover the world around them. Together as a team, we are partners in making school a fun place for your children to come that encourages them to learn and develop at their own pace. I thank you in advance for your help in working with us to provide the best learning experience possible for the children and us!

It is wonderful seeing the children's happy faces every day at school. Remember that attendance is very important to your child's successful learning experience and we hope to see your child at school each and every day. You can help to stress the importance of being at school each day with your child by making excellent attendance a priority at this young age which will lead to lifelong positive attitudes about school and learning. We look forward to a wonderful school year together and are very excited for all that it has to offer!



It's Time for School!

TEACHERS RULE



Greetings,

We would like to welcome all students and parents to our Horizon Blended/Head Start class. We are so glad that you have allowed us to be a part of your child's educational experience and we are looking forward to a great year. We have started the school year off getting to know our friends and families. The students created all about me posters, that you will find hanging around the classroom. We hope you enjoyed working on that activity with your child, because we will be sending home two activities per month for each student. We also introduce the student to our Second Step Curriculum, which teaches the students social and emotional skills. Our overall theme for the month of September will be ready for school. We will be discussing making friends, learning together, and how to get along. Focus letters will be A and B, Shape: Circle, Color: Red and numbers: 1-3. We would like to wish Paxton Finks, James Kelly, and Alonzo Veleta a Happy Birthday!!!

-Ms. Keyanna/Mrs. Jennifer



From FA's Desk



The Horizon Family would like to welcome Ms. Yasmin Moore as our new Family Advocate. She is from Jamaica and the mother of one son. She has been working with families for the past 12 years. Her personal motto: "if you can conceive it, and believe it, you can achieve it." She is looking forward to working with our parents and students. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact her at the number found below

Family Advocate: Yasmin Moore

Phone Number: 386-788-1088 ext. 213

Policy Council Update – August 2018

The August Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, August 23rd. Members participated via video conference from the administrative office in their county. Six policy council members were present. Eight staff members were present.

Policy Council members who could not attend the meeting were contacted to obtain their approval or disapproval on voting items.

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*: The average daily attendance of nine Early Head Start classrooms in Volusia County was below 85% in July 2018 due to family travel or illness.

Heidi Rand, Director of Early Learning Programs, advised the Policy Council members that our agency will return any unused Early Head Start **grant funds** for the current program year to the federal government. The unused funds were originally identified for expenses related to opening Early Head Start classrooms. Several unavoidable factors temporarily delayed the opening of these classrooms. The classrooms are expected to be opened in 2018-19. The return of the funds will not affect the amount of our Early Head Start grant award for the next program year.

New hires for the following positions in Volusia County were approved: 3 Family Advocates, 1 Community Outreach Coordinator, 4 Early Head Start teachers and 1 substitute teacher.

New hires for the following positions in Hernando/Sumter Counties were approved: 1 Family Advocate, 1 Early Head Start teacher, 1 Head Start teacher and 1 part time Extended Day teacher.

Policy council members were asked to encourage parents at their sites to consider **Policy Council participation**. A special request for Policy Council members to help recruit more children and families was also made.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for 9:30am on Thursday, September 27th at Lake Sumter College in Leesburg.

Parent Reminders

- Check to see if your child is in need of an extra change of clothes
- Your child may have a special note in their backpack, if so please respond as soon as possible
- Early release every Wednesday
- Please remember to check in at the front office if you get to classroom after the 2nd bell (7:55)
- No School on September 3
- No School on September 17
- Parent Meeting September 5



Important Numbers

Important Phone Numbers

Classroom Phone: 386-624-1772

CDS: Jennifer Tinstman

Phone Number: 386-235-4480