

## Notes from the Early Head Start



Wecome back to the New Year. We hope that your holiday were full of fun and wonderful memories. This month we will be focusing on our city and how we live. Our family engagement will be January 17th at 8am. We encourage you to join us.

## WELCOME BACK!!





We would like to thank all the parents that participated in the Family Engagement. The children really enjoy the time you spend with them in the classroom.



January, 2018

Dear Parents,

A new year, new projects, new goals; with the aptitude of continue to grow as a better person and remaining to be an example for our children. Happy New Year 2018!

Notes from Family Advocate

Just a reminder, your child's attendance to school makes a big difference in their academic performance; bring your child to school on time. I would like to thanks to all parents for their attendance in our Parent Meeting, Parent Training and Family Engagement Activity with your child; your participation is very important to us. If you has made any change in your address or phone, please let me know to inform your child's teacher and update your child's file. Keep updated your child's medical records (physical exam, immunization record, dental).

Un nuevo año, nuevos proyectos, nuevas metas; mantengamos la disposición de seguir creciendo como mejores personas y continuar siendo un ejemplo para nuestros niños. Feliz Año 2018!

## Policy Council updated for December 2017

The December Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, December 14th at 10am via video conference. A quorum was established. Eleven policy council members were present. Twelve staff members were present.

The following reports were reviewed and approved: Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers. Parent Activity requests for Bushnell and Spring Hill were approved.

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

Hernando: Substitute Teacher in Brooksville/Spring Hill

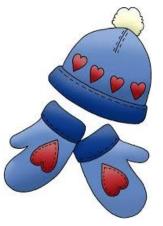
- Hernando: Part-time Early Head Start Teacher
- Hernando: Early Head Start Teacher

Hernando: Head Start Teacher III

Hernando: Head Start Teacher V in Spring Hill

Volusia: Floating Early Head Start Teacher at Oakridge

Volusia: Center Aide Substitute for Volusia County



Mid Florida Community Services Finance Officer - Diane Berube, conducted a budget training. The highlights of the training included the various program related budgets (Head Start, Early Head Start, VPK and USDA) that are reviewed monthly, how to read the budget reports and the different budget periods. It was noted that the cost per child expense for Early Head Start is higher than the cost for a Head Start child. VPK instruction, totaling 3 hours a day, is provided in designated locations. The USDA budget is developed based on the number of meals served in the prior year.

Child Development Specialist-Jennifer Fowler, led an information session on the Galileo Curriculum which included accessing and navigating Galileo on their computer. Each parent was reminded that a personal Galileo password has been established for them and a magnet was given out earlier in the year for parents to write their personal password on. This magnet can be placed on the refrigerator for quick reference. Parents were encouraged to access Galileo regularly to access their child's profile which includes the following: information about what their child has learned, what their child is ready to learn and activities parents can do with their children at home to support the development of new skills.

Deputy Director of Children's Services - Amy Thomas, presented the Child Outcomes Analysis Report. She explained that these reports help identify if children are making developmental gains. The report consists of two different scores: baseline (starting point) and gains (progress). The goal is for each child to have a 50 point increase from the time they started the program to the end of the school year.

Director of Early Learning Programs - Heidi Rand, reported that a Federal Monitoring Review will take place the week of February 12th, 2018. Parents are encouraged to discuss any program concerns about their center, with their Family Advocate or Child Development Specialist before that time. The review will consist of classroom observations using the CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) tool, review of program data records, health and safety checks, inter-

views of policy council members and staff.

Policy Council meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month, unless rescheduled due to holidays. The next meeting will be held on January 25th @ 10am. It will be a face-to-face meeting at Lake-Sumter State College in Leesburg, FL.