



Osteen Head Start Newsletter

March, 2017



Policy Council Report February Policy Council Update

The February Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, February 23rd at 10:00 am. It was a video conference meeting. Policy Council members from Volusia County met at the Volusia Administration Conference Room in Deland. Policy Council members from Hernando and Sumter counties met at the Hernando Head Start Conference Room in Brooksville. Thirteen policy council members (11 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following person was approved for hire:

Kari Thornsbury, Dietary Aide (Hernando County)

The following reports were approved/accepted: December 2016 Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Heidi Rand - Director, expressed concern regarding the amount of classrooms (more than 25%) with attendance rates below 85%. Parents are encouraged to be mindful of the attendance policy and remind other parents as well.

An overview of the *High Scope Curriculum*, *Houghton Mifflin Curriculum* and *Galileo Assessment/Curriculum* was provided by Heidi Rand. A detailed review of the *Second Step Curriculum* will be presented next month.

Our Quality Assurance Manager - Jeff Heyne, led a training on Head Start program eligibility. He explained the four eligibility categories, provided examples of funds that are considered to be income and described the consequences a staff member would face if it is determined that the staff member did not accurately process income information in an effort to ensure that the family is determined to be eligible.

Policy Council members were advised that our program has been asked to submit a grant proposal for Volusia/Flagler United Way. The grant proposals will request funding to support kindergarten readiness and promote healthy lifestyles in Volusia County.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23rd at 10 am. It will be a video conference meeting.



Family Advocates News

By. Annette Gregory

Come and learn about healthy eating and gardening with other Head Start parents at our Spring Nutrition Event! Head Start will provide transportation for you to the Farmer's Market at the Volusia County Fairgrounds on Wednesday March 29th.

There will be cooking demo's, education stations, taste testing, a make and take herb garden, goodie bags, and all attendees will receive a FREE \$5 voucher to spend at the Farmer's Market. Please contact me to reserve your spot as soon as possible, seating is limited.

Notes from Mrs. Jennifer Fowler

Child Development Specialist

March is already upon us. It seems like the months are flying by much too quickly. February was a flash and I am sure summer will be here in the blink of an eye. We had lots of exciting events that occurred in February and have much more including our Spring Break to come in March. We are delighted with the progress of all our children at this point of the school year. All are doing so well learning their preschool skills. Our staff feels very fortunate to work every day with such bright and beautiful children. We also appreciate all of our parents' efforts in our behalf. Your daily participation and communication makes our job so much easier. March will be another fun filled and busy month in our center. We will continue to fill the children's days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and special events. We want to thank all parents for helping the teachers to get the home visits completed.

Spring Forward!

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts Sunday, March 13, 2016 at 2am

Set those clocks ahead one hour!

Happy Spring Break and Happy St Patrick's Day!!



Special Events

03/08/2017- Marine Science Center to Daytona Beach

03/08/2017- Kindergarten transition meeting @4:30pm

03/10/2017- In -Service no school

03/14/2017-Parent meeting

Inside Story Classroom 1

By. Mrs. Adela and Mrs. Linnette

Mrs. Adela and Mrs. Linnette

We had such a terrific month of February as we celebrated Friendship Day and learned all about different clothes according to the weather as well as all shapes and sizes. Now, with the days getting longer and springtime is just around the corner, we leap into March with a renewed sense of excitement! Some of our themes for this month will be spring is here! And Watch my garden grow.

Also, if at any time a particular subject interests you, or you have something to share with the class to enrich the children's experience, please contact us.
Thank you!



Inside Story Classroom 2

By. Ms. Lorraine and Ms. Lee Ann

Hello Parent/Guardian,

In the month of March we are learning about City and Country. The children learned about the city life and what is in the city. They also learned about the country life and living in the country. They did different art activities that related to the learning theme. We also continued working on our letters, numbers up to 20. Learning Goals: Writing, Letters sounds, Number Identification, Shapes

Second Step:

The children will be learning to identify their own and manage strong feelings.

Thank you,
Ms. Lorraine and Ms. Lee Ann

Inside Story Classroom 3

By. Mrs. Amanda & Mrs. Delly

This month we will be talking about: "City/Country. We will also learn about "Spring", Through Second Step we continue to work on Unit 4: Friendship skill and Problem solving. Our goals for this unit are to help children learn to solve problems in safe ways and to build skills that help children make and keep friends. **We want to encourage our parents to keep working at home with your child.** Also thank all the parents for your help and support during the past months.



Parent Meeting Minutes

Please see Family Advocate