



## **Westside Head Start**

**November 2017**

*It has been such a delight these past months to watch our children grow in confidence and independence.*

*A great big “Thanks” goes out to all of parents. We are so grateful that we have awesome parents like you to share it with you. You make our job fun and we enjoy getting to know all of you. Parents remember that you can come in at any time to volunteer.*

*We will be focusing on the following fun activities:*

**Letters:** F-B-T-M-X-W      **Math/Science:** Patterns/Comparing/Counting

**Second Steps:** More Feels      **Lesson Plans:** Seasonal Changes

**Nutritional Activity:** Crookneck Squash

**Numbers:** 5-6-7-8-9-10      **Colors:** Fall Colors

**Nurse Rhymes-** Jack and Jill      **Shapes:** Oval

**Parent Involvement Activity:**



### **Important Dates:**

- \*Closed for Veteran's Day: November 11th
- \* Parent Meeting November 15th: 1:00 p.m.
- \* Parent Involvement: November 15th at 12:30 p.m.
- \*Thanksgiving Break: November 22nd– 24th
- \* Parent Teacher's Conferences

## Parent Meeting Minutes

### Mid Florida Community Services, Incorporated

### Head Start



Westside Head Start  
Parent's Meeting Minutes  
Day: \_10\_ Month: \_\_10\_\_ Year: \_\_2017\_\_.

- Parent Meeting started at \_\_1:00pm\_\_.
- Parents were greeted by: \_\_\_\_\_Chairperson Ms. Tina \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was leaded by: \_\_\_\_\_N/A\_\_\_\_\_.
- Minutes from last Parents Meeting were given by: \_\_Ms. Ellie \_\_\_\_\_.
- Policy Council Representative, reported Policy Council Minutes:  
Yes: \_X\_\_\_\_. No: \_\_\_\_\_. Mr. Mat
- Parents were notified of coming Important Dates:

Open house on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm

Head Start Awareness Month

No Early Release Days in November

The teacher spoke about the website for Facebook

November parent involvement November 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm

Parent Meeting November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm

Veteran's day No school – November 10<sup>th</sup>

Make sure to check posted notices of upcoming events.

Thanksgiving vacation on November 22<sup>nd</sup> – November 24<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned at: 1:15 pm



## Policy Council

A mandatory **Policy Council training** was held on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. The **October Policy Council meeting** started at noon on this date immediately after the mandatory training. Eighteen 2017-18 policy council members were present. Two of the eighteen members in attendance were alternate policy council members. Voting during this meeting was limited to official policy council representatives and alternates from sites that were not represented at the meeting.

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

Policy Council officers for 2017-18 were elected. The new officers are Chairperson - Jonathan Martinez (*Volusia*); Vice-Chairperson- Sheila Ramos (*Volusia*); Secretary - Pat Nohr (*Volusia*); Policy Council Liaison- Jacob Raby (*Hernando*).

Candidates for the following vacancies have been approved for hire: Early Head Start Teacher at Oak Ridge Site (*Volusia*); Teacher Assistants at Coleman (*Volusia*), Port Orange-2 (*Volusia*), Blue Lake Elementary (*Volusia*); Child Development Specialist (*Hernando*) ; Education Manager ( *Hernando*, Sumter and *Volusia* counties).

Heidi Rand, Director of Early Learning Programs, advised the Policy Council of a recent Information Memorandum from the Office of Head Start that provided guidance for opportunities for programs to respond to the needs of recent hurricane victims. She also reminded the Policy Council of the Parent Activity Fund amount of \$5 per child and discussed the details of the permitted use of the funds.

Budget training will be conducted during the November Policy Council meeting by the Chief Financial Officer of Mid Florida Community Services, Kris Bates.

The School Readiness Committee will meet on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the holidays, the November and December Policy Council meetings will be earlier than the regularly scheduled meeting date. The November meeting will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The December meeting will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Each of these meetings will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room of the administrative office closest to their county.

The program specialist from the Head Start Region IV Office will be visiting our program in November 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>.



From the Desk of: CDS



## *The Importance of Play*

It is generally through play that a preschool child learns about the world around them and then assimilates what they have learned into their concept of reality.

Preschool children enjoy three different forms of play: physical, manipulative, and symbolic.

**Physical play:** refers to activities that involve use of the muscles. These include running, hopping, jumping, climbing, throwing, sliding, and playing with a ball.

**Manipulative play:** refers to activities by which a child learns to gain better control over her environment. These activities include the use of puzzles and building blocks (which also require some physical play skills) as well as games that involve social manipulation (“What can I do to make Daddy come to me?”).

**Symbolic play:** involves manipulation of events and objects. These play activities would include the use of fantasy; pretend play, and nonsense rhymes. In symbolic play, a child can change events, identities and emotions for the sake of her play, thereby gaining more complete control over her newly created world.

Because young children enjoy play, it becomes a very natural way for them to learn about themselves and about the world in which they live. As children grow and change, play develops with them according to a developmental sequence.

So when you come into your child’s classroom, you will see them involved in centers and “playing,” but remember there is a lot of learning going on. The teachers are working hard to prepare your child to be successful in their future endeavors.





## From the FA Desk

We wish you a happy Thanksgiving!

Dear Parents: It is October and the holiday season is fast approaching. We love this time of the year because we get to spend time with our families and friends and have lost of school activities. I hope all is well with your families after Hurricane Irma. (Information for Help is below).

Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner; here I send you information where you can find help for toys and clothing for the winter at low cost to help you save money.

¡Ha llegado finalmente el mes de Octubre! Yo amo este tiempo del año en donde se aproximan tantas actividades escolares y familiares. Espero que todos se encuentren bien después del Huracán Irma. (Encontrará información para ayuda, vea la información abajo).

Acción de Gracias y Navidades están a la vuelta de la esquina, por lo que les proveo la información de dónde ustedes pueden buscar juguetes y ropa de invierno a bajo costo para ayudarles a ahorrar dinero.

1. Toys for Tots: [www.VolusiaCountyToysforTots.com](http://www.VolusiaCountyToysforTots.com) (Registration will open October 1st, 2017)

2. Salvation Army: [www.salvationarmyflorida.org/volusia](http://www.salvationarmyflorida.org/volusia)

3. Goodwill Stores: [www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org)

4. Once upon Child: [onceuponachilddaytonabeach.com](http://onceuponachilddaytonabeach.com)

5. FEMA: <https://www.disasterassistance.gov>

6. More information about food assistance is available at [www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/](http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/)

7. Here is another program for kids with Special Needs:

Nathaniel's Hope: <https://www.nathanielshope.org/>

### Reminders / Recordatorios:

- Attends school daily and arrives on time ready for each day learning experience.

Asista a la escuela todos los días y llegue a tiempo para cada experiencia de aprendizaje diaria.

# Perfect Attendance

**Toquya Brown, Alani Edwards, Treasure Larmond,**

**Joshua McDonald, Je'Kiara Oxendine**