



## Westside Head Start Newsletter

What a great beginning we have had! Already into the 3<sup>rd</sup> month of school. The classroom schedule and activities are well under way. Our children are happy and have adjusted nicely to the routine of school. Looks of “**I Can’t Do It**” are turning into “**I Did It!**” It is a very rewarding for us as teachers to witness this transition.

With the children accomplishments, you parents have been wonderful also. Your response to volunteer for the many jobs at our preschool has been overwhelming. We are grateful for all of your support and willingness to take an active role in helping with our garden. We have many busy days ahead of us and we are looking forward of sharing them with you.



**October** is Fire Prevention month. It is time to remember the importance teaching your child fire safety. A few safety behaviors that you can teacher your child:

- Stay away from hot things that will hurt them.
- Teach Stop, Drop and roll
- Craw low under smoke
- Know the sound of your smoke detector.
- Practice an escape plan.
- Choose a meeting place outside



### Up Coming Events:

- \* Parent Involvement Activity –17th @ 12:30; p.m.
- \* Parent Meeting – October 17th @ 1:00 p.m.
- \* Open House: *October 24th from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

## Perfect Attendance September

Madison Brown	Alivia Brown-Lamb	Daniel John	Dallas Johnson
Chloe Macia	Sofia Menendez-Duarte	Amirah Wilson	Lyliann Spaulding



## Parent Meeting Minute



Meeting was opened by Stacy. She spoke about updating shots and physicals. She spoke about She spoke about keeping children home when sick as it is not fair to other children and staff. She spoke about having open house on a Wednesday because so many families don't want to come back. The time will be at 1:15 date to be determined. October 15<sup>th</sup> Teacher Duty day. No School.

FA Report: Please update shots and physicals, and addresses and phone numbers. We reminded the parents once again about keeping children in a hot car even for a couple of minutes. We also reminded parents about putting children in car seats.

We still need to decide on who will be our next chairperson as our has moved to Port Orange.

Please call if you're going to be late. Teachers asked if they have any questions to please come during or call during lunchtime or after school as the mornings are pretty busy.

If you are late and the gate is closed you have to go to the front office to get a badge. Please dress children accordingly. And please talk to your child about keeping hands to themselves.

You can volunteer any time you want.

Mr. Michael did a make and take. He showed the parents how to make slime and let all parents participate in the slime making. He passed out the recipe as well. Parents loved the activity a lot better than playdough.

Krista: CDS thanked everyone for being there. She let them know she is available when needed



### From the Desk of: CDS- Krista Callahan



Fall is here and we are already off to a wonderful beginning of preschool here at our center. A warm welcome to you all and I hope that the school year is off to a great start for you and your family as well! We have had a wonderful start to our school year so far and it seems as though everyone has made a smooth transition. If your child is still having a difficult time separating, please be sure to make an appointment with your child's teacher and myself so we can help to ease the transition some. Not to worry they will be making new friends in no time. By working together, we can make this a wonderful beginning to your child's education. Your children are all a delight and they will teach us many things. They will help us remember how to play, to live in the present moment, and to make new discoveries. Let's be models of the behavior we want them to have; cooperate, share, take turns, laugh, play and "use our words".

I'm really looking forward to our year together and hope you think of your days spent in the classroom as a joy . . . a special time you get to spend watching your child grow and discover. Remember we encourage volunteering and welcome all of you to join our teachers and children in the classrooms. Your children enjoy seeing you in the classroom and so do we...

Be sure to attend the next parent meeting at your center, you can check with your teacher or family advocate if you are not sure when it is.

Please do your best to bring your child to school every day we understand that things happen, so if your child can't come please be sure to call your child's teacher to let them know they will not be here or that they will be late.



## Policy Council update for September 2018



The September Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. Five 2017-18 policy council members were present. Sixteen policy council members, elected for 2018-19 program year, were in attendance to observe the meeting process. Seven staff members were present.

The following documents **were approved**: *Budget Report, Credit Card Report, Meals and Snacks Report, Service Area Reports, Center Reports and the Family Engagement Plan*. Details of the approved *Enrollment/Attendance Report* included the following: The average daily attendance of 3 Head Start classrooms in Volusia County was below 85% in August 2018 due to illness or transportation issues. The daily attendance of 2 Head Start classrooms in Hernando/Sumter County was below 85% in August 2018 due to illness, family travel plans or transportation issues.

The Program Information Report for services provided in 2017-18 (Early Head Start and Head Start) was reviewed. This report included data about program services in a variety of categories such as the number of children and families participating in the program, number of staff employed by program and the number of families who achieved their goals.

The following **new hires** were approved for Volusia County sites: 2 teachers and 1 center aide

The following **new hires** were approved for Hernando County sites: 3 teachers

Policy Council members who served during 2017-18 program year received special recognition for their dedicated service.

**Training** for newly elected 2018-19 **Policy Council members** is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in Volusia County at the MFCS Admin. Office in Deland and Tuesday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Training room at the Hernando Admin. Office in Brooksville.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for 9:30am on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. The meeting location is to be determined.



## Family Advocate



Hello Families and welcome to fall. Yes it is that time of season where we need to be mindful of our children's attire. Please make sure to dress your children appropriately for the weather. Also please remember to switch out their summer clothing for warmer weather as we know it can be quite cold up here. We would also like to continue to congratulate and thank everyone for calling when your children are going to be late, or are sick. Attendance is key so please make sure that you continue to have your children at school every day and on time. Children tend to miss out on learning when they are late. Our next parent meeting is on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:05 P.M. Again we thank you for your continued participation in the Head Start Program.

