

Horizon Head Start/ Blended Newsletter

November 2018



Our theme for the month of November will be Our Community. Students will learn about places we go, people we meet, things that move and going green. Our focus letters will be F, G, and H. Students will learn the letter sound and words that start with each letter. In math the students will discuss patterns, number sense, empty/full. Our color and shape for the month will be brown and square. In second step the students will learn about identifying feelings, anger, caring and helping. We would like to wish Jericho Henry, Hope-Anne Blauberg-Canty, and Alexander Von Stroh a Happy Birthday!!

Ms. Keyanna/Ms. Debra



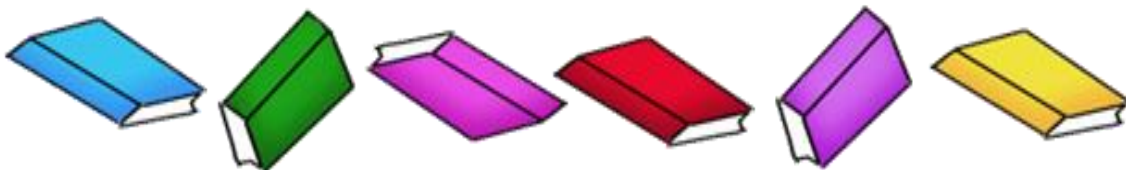
**From the Desk of: Lee Ann Vega, CDS
Language and Literacy**



Language and literacy begin in infancy as babies are programmed from birth to communicate. While the development of language is instinctive, it does require attention, repetition and approval from loved ones to flourish.

We surround the children in our classrooms with books, words, music, and the opportunity to hear people engage in conversation. The children are invited to think out loud during large and small group times, and of course, talk to other children and adults throughout the day. Learning to use and love the power of words at this age is the key to reading later in school, so we immerse our children in a language and print-rich environment to help them get started.

What can parents do? Read to your child at home, sing, chant, listen to music, play word games! Describe what you are doing in detail using rich descriptive vocabulary to expose you children to a varied of words, such as, "I am folding the blue cotton shirt for your sister. It is soft and feels smooth." Delight in what your child has to say! For more ideas, talk to your child's teacher.



From the desk of Yasmin Moore, Family Advocate



Attendance + parent participation= Student Success

Make getting students to school on time every day a top priority. Please alert teacher and family advocate of barriers that keeping your child from attending class.

Parent and family engagement is the key to reducing chronic absence. All of us — schools, preschools, and parents themselves — can make a difference by engaging and helping families to nurture a habit of regular attendance so their children can realize their hopes and dreams. Let us work together to help our children finish strong

Resource: http://www.attendanceworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/062215_AW_ParentToolkit-1.pdf

REMINDER: Dental exam reports are due for those children who were given notices to take home.

Yasmin Moore



CONGRATULATIONS

Hope- Anne

Angelina

Patrick

Ava



- Check to see if your child is in need of extra changing clothes
- Your child may have a special note in their backpack, if so please respond as soon as possible
- Parent meeting will be November 1, 2018 @2:15
- No School on November 12 (Veterans Day)
- No School November 19-23 (Thanksgiving Break)

Horizon Head Start Parent Meeting

Date: October 4, 2018

Time: 2:15 p.m.

Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Michael Davis, Family Engagement Coordinator.

Mrs. Clinger-Brewster, Chairperson was absent due to family illness.

The meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Nicole Petrofsky (Assistant) and Mr. Michael Davis

4 Families were represented. We discussed the lack of parent participation and FA and Teacher will continue to invite parents to the meetings.

Also present were: Keyanna Bell- HS Teacher, Yasmin Moore- Family Advocate.

Mrs. Clinger-Brewster provided information from Policy Council meeting which was held last month; the information was shared by Mr. Michael and Ms. Nicole.

We also discussed the security changes which will become effective soon and its impact on parents signing in and out.

Announcement:

- Next Policy Council Meeting will be October 25th at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg.
- October 12 & 26 In-service/Student Holidays

Reports: Mr. Michael spoke on pedestrian safety

- Family Advocate reminded families that dental exams / treatment is a requirement and are expected to be done by the due date indicated on the notices sent home with each child whose dental is coming due.
- Attendance was discussed again. Absence/Tardiness/Leaving early all affect child's overall performance now and later in life.

Next meeting will be Nov 1st at 2:15.

Minutes taken by: Yasmin Moore, Family Advocate.

Meeting adjourned



Policy Council Update – October 2018

The **October Policy Council Meeting** was held on Thursday, October 25th at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. Seventeen policy council members were present. Seven staff members were present. Two community representatives were present.

The following 2018 -19 Policy Council officers were elected: Chairman – Angela Salazar from Woodward Blended Head Start classroom, Vice Chairman – James Norton from Malloy Head Start classroom and Secretary – Felicia Morrison from Port Orange Head Start.

The following documents **were approved**: *Budget Report, Credit Card Report, Meals and Snacks Report, Service Area Reports, Center Reports and a Behavior Plan.*

The Enrollment/Attendance Report showed 17 Head Start classrooms and 8 Early Head Start classrooms with an average daily attendance below 85% in September.

Policy council members approved a 25% limit (of the total activity cost) for the cost of food for Parent Engagement activities.

Six **new hires** were approved for Volusia County sites.

Three **new hires** were approved for Hernando County sites.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for 10:00am on Thursday, November 15th via video conference. Policy Council members will meet at the Mid Florida Administrative office in their county.

