



SEPTEMBER

HEAD START NEWS

Westside Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: **Rhonda Lochiatto**

Hello and Welcome Back!

We are so excited to welcome our families back after a very long break. I recently joined the Mid-Florida family in March just before the break and I cannot wait to finally meet everyone and see all the smiling eyes walk through our doors. My name is Rhonda Lochiatto and I come to you from over 20 years of public school service. I served in Volusia County Schools for 14 years as an elementary and middle school teacher and as an instructional coach. I have also taught in Orange County, Osceola County, and Seminole County. I've had experience with children of all ages over the years and am looking forward to bringing that to you! As we get back to our instruction please remember the COVID protocols that have been implemented for everyone's health and safety. If you will be dropping off in person we will have parking signage in place and 6ft markers visible. Early Head Start will continue to check in at the portable with your teachers. Head Start will check in on the porch by the first door. Temperature and Health Checks will be completed there and our awesome teacher assistants will bring your children inside the building to wash hands and take them to their classroom where their teacher will be eagerly awaiting their arrival. No parents or any other outside visitors will be allowed to enter the building without an appointment. If you are participating in our virtual lessons, please look for a schedule to be emailed from your child's teacher soon! If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at any time!



CONTACT US!

CDS: Rhonda Lochiatto 386-681-7662

Family Advocate: Yvette Altman 386-675-8781

Classroom Phone Extensions

1: 386-788-1088 Ext. 208



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

August 31 – First Day of School!

September 7 – Labor Day Holiday, No School



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Yvette Altman

Welcome to a new school year. As we navigate through our year, we would like to thank you for your patience and flexibility as we are all in the learning process. I will be sending out Zoom links for everyone to join once a week so please update your email, and phone numbers so we can make sure you are getting the correct information. Our school days are Monday through Thursday and Friday we will be working remotely. We thank you for your continued participation within our Head Start Program. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or can't get onto zoom.

Yvette Altman

Family Advocate Westside

My work cell is 386-523-7781.

My office number is 386-788-1088 Ext 110.

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 1

Dear Families,

Welcome to Preschool! This is the year for our youngest learning to shine brightly in our classroom. It will be a year of magical wonder and amazing growth for our little stars. We are looking forward to working with you and your child as we teach them to reach for the stars. Communication is the key to your child's success and to a great parent/teacher relationship. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at any time.

We are looking forward to our preschool adventure with your child and family.

Too Many Happy Days!

Ms. Cynthia & Ms. Terry



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

If your child is 2 or older and returning to our in person instruction now would be a great time to practice proper mask wearing and social distancing. Listed are some fun Jack Hartman YouTube videos that you can watch at and enjoy at home about children wearing masks.

<https://youtu.be/iE6L-4tO-rs>

<https://youtu.be/NMVsCwKeARQ>

<https://youtu.be/OMg6t-z8KEI>

PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Our first parent meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10 at 11:00 am via Zoom! Look for more information to come soon!

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

The July minutes were approved. A prospective ten staff were approved for hire. The enrollment, attendance, and snack reports were approved. Additionally, a review of our school options were reviewed and updated with the Council. Service area and center reports were also approved.



CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

Check out: Pete the Kitty's First Day of Preschool by Kimberly and James Dean.
<https://safeshare.tv/x/ss5f4febacb4503>