



The Center

Volume: 6

Issue: 6



Early Childhood Programs of Lake County School District

Our mission is to serve and respect children and families by providing research-based early childhood services that promote the development of knowledge, life skills, and self-esteem

Hello families! With the month of February comes our mid-year Home Visits. The schedule for these are as follows:

- February 11 and 12 4:00-7:00pm
- February 14 and 19 8:00-5:00pm

We look forward to this opportunity to meet with each of our families to touch base on your child's progress, set new goals, and share how the year is going so far. Here are some helpful tips for a productive home visit.

- Prepare for your home visit by writing down some of your questions. Having a list ahead of time will help you remember the things you want to cover the most. Here are some examples of questions that might be helpful to ask:
 - What are my child's strengths?
 - How does my child interact with the other children?
 - What does my child enjoy at school?
 - Is there anything we can do at home to reinforce the skills that you are working on in the classroom?
- Keep in mind that this is an established partnership where you and the teachers are working together to support your child. Teachers will have many successes and updates on progress to share, but this may also include talking through areas where your child has room to develop. This is all a part of the home visit. The partnership between home and school is a key relationship to benefit your child.
- Share any relevant information with your child's classroom teachers. This may include updated contact information or any recent changes that may have taken place at home. Feel free to schedule another time to meet if you were not able to cover everything during the home visit.

We look forward to meeting with each of our families and can't wait to share all of the good news from our classrooms with you!

February 2019 Events

February 7—Home Based Early Head Start Information Meeting @ The Center 5:30-7:00
February 11—Home Visits per schedule 4:00-7:00 Regular preschool day.
February 12—Home Visits per schedule 4:00-7:00 Regular preschool day.
February 13—Classroom Celebrations 11:00-11:45
February 14—Center Closed. Home Visits per schedule 8:00-5:00.
February 15—Center Closed. Teacher Comp Day.
February 18—Center Closed. President's Day.
February 19—Center Closed. Home Visits per schedule 8:00-5:00.
February 28—Family Fun Night @ the Public Library 5:30-7:00.



Parents' Voices

It is important for us to hear from you. We welcome your input to operate a program that meets the needs of the families we serve. To reach:

Tanya Lenhard 486-6920
Director of Early Childhood Programs

Policy Council 486-6888
extension 2190

EARLY HEAD START UPDATES

Submitted by: Anne Sifuentes-Home Based Early Head Start Visitor



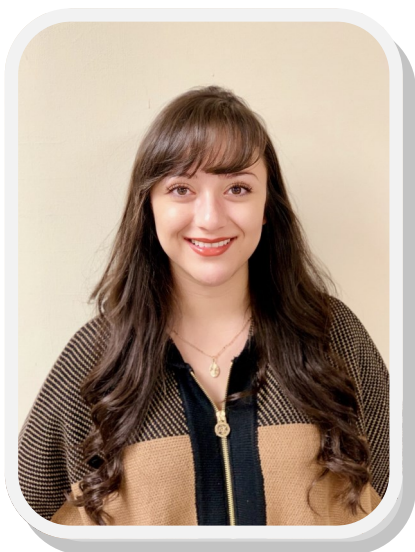
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!!!

Early Head Start is a home visiting program designed to support you as your child's first and most important teacher. You are eligible to apply if you are pregnant or have children up to three years old.

Pick up an application at The Center or call 719-486-6928 for more information

Early Head Start Home Based Program Services are in action. Families are officially enrolled in this new program that supports home based services for families with children under the age of three. After several months of planning, we are now providing services. The Center is still accepting applications for this program. Call Lisa at 719-486-6928 for more information today!

Meet Our Early Head Start Home Visitor!



Greetings! My name is Anne Sifuentes and I am currently the Bilingual Early Head Start Home Visitor. I was born and raised in Leadville, CO and have worked in the community for several years. My previous position was an Assistant Preschool Teacher at The Center, which I was a part of for five years. I was also a community babysitter, before being at The Center, for corporations such as Full Circle and Build a Generation. I have also participated in the development of programs like GOCO and GOL! I am enthusiastic about beginning this new role and look forward to working with families in Early Head Start and continue enhancing my education in Early Childhood Education.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Submitted by: Jenny Mascarenaz-Transportation Manager



CROSS WITH CARE

If your child has to cross the street to board the bus, he or she must:

Make eye contact with the bus driver. The bus driver should be able to see your child at all times.

Wait for the bus driver to signal that it's safe to cross

Watch and listen for cars.

Stay at least 10 feet away from the bus and cross in **front** of the bus.

Always stay out of the danger zone.

Go over these rules often with your child.

Meet Wally!!!

Our new
puppet friend,
he helps us as
we learn and
practice
social skills.



For Attendance and The Bus please call 486-6925 and leave a message.

This line is checked right before the bus goes out each day, and attendance is recorded from the messages. Other lines may be checked only once each day.

If your child is sick and has a fever, keep him/her at home to prevent the spread of illness to others. Public Health and the School District advise parents to keep children home for 24 hours after the child is free from fever without fever reducing medications.



Five Essentials to Meaningful Play

By Marcia L. Nell and Walter F. Drew

“One of my clearest childhood memories is slithering through the tall grass like a snake with my brother and sister.”

When you think back on your childhood, what happy play memories come to mind? Adults today tend to think back on their childhood play memories with nostalgia and often call them the “good old days.” Memories of joyful and meaningful play experiences help bind families together emotionally, even long after children are grown. Are our children experience the same kind of joy, meaning and family bonding in their play?

Here are five elements essential to meaningful play that create those rich memories we treasure:

1.Children make their own decisions.

When children choose how to play themselves, they experience freedom making those choices. They also begin to see connections between choice and the consequences or results of that choice. The type of toys or materials parents offer can help their children make more meaningful decisions. Open-ended materials can be used in many ways so children can decide for themselves how to use them. For example, a child can imagine a block to be a fire truck or any number of things. A toy fire truck, on the other hand, is usually used as a fire truck. Foam pieces, little wooden sticks, ribbon scraps, and other reusable resources are all open-ended materials that inspire create thinking and delight when children use them to make something no one has ever made before.

2.Children are intrinsically motivated

The impulse to play comes from a natural desire to understand the world. This play impulse is as strong as your child’s desire for food or sleep. It is the intrinsic motivation that allows a child to regulate her own feelings and desires in order to keep playing. Because children eventually find it more important to be part of play with their friends than to satisfy their own wants and needs at that moment, children learn self-control. And self-control has been shown to lead to success in later years, especially in today’s information age, where distractions are a part of daily life.

3.Children become immersed in the moment

In true play, children are so fully engaged that they lose awareness of their surroundings, time and space. In this risk-free atmosphere where reality is suspended, children have the security and safety they need to experience, try new ideas, and investigate the laws of nature. Although they are immersed in their play, children still can recognize reality versus fantasy, something parents often wonder about.

4.Play is spontaneous, not scripted

Often, play is totally unplanned. Other times, play is planned but a child impulsively makes a change. One child changes his mind, or perhaps a toy does not cooperate. This sense of the unknown provides children with opportunities to develop flexibility in their thinking and decision making, which is a vital life skill.

5.Play is enjoyable

Play always has an emotional response attached to it. Without this emotional connection, the experience is simply an activity; it is not PLAY. Enjoyment is the direct result of engaging in play. It is FUN! These five essential elements of play outline why play provides your child with a rich experience. And isn’t that what we want for our children, to develop play memories that will become the “good old days?”

HEALTH INFORMATION

Submitted by: Lizz Holm-Health Manager

How sick is too sick to come to school?

As parents, we often see our kids starting to get sick or ending an illness period and wondering if they are too sick to come to school. Should I send them? Should I keep them home one more day? What is the rule for keeping them home? Oftentimes when you are in the middle of trying to make a decision or remember the rules, we are sick as well or may have other children who are sick and it can be incredibly hard to know what is right. Here are a few reminders, to the most common illnesses we see at The Center, as to when to send your child to school.

1. **Fever:** Children must be kept at home if they have a fever of 100.4 or higher- **EVEN IF YOU HAVE GIVEN THEM MEDICINE.** During this stage of an illness they are the most contagious and need to be kept at home so all of their friends, the staff, and others whom they may come into contact with do not get sick as well. "No matter the illness, keep your child home if she has a fever. It may seem harmless enough, but assume any fever is a symptom of a contagious condition. Viruses that cause fevers are contagious as long as the fever is above a 100.4 degrees F. reading rectally. For these, ask your pediatrician if acetaminophen or ibuprofen are safe for your child, and encourage your little one to drink lots of cool fluids." (<https://www.parents.com/health/cold-flu/cold/is-my-child-contagious/>)
2. **Diarrhea:** Children who have diarrhea should stay home. It can be caused from any number of items, and can be very hard to pinpoint the exact reason. "Diarrhea is usually caused by gastrointestinal (GI) infections caused by germs (viruses, bacteria, or parasites). A diet high in sugar (for instance, from drinking lots of juice) also can bring on diarrhea." (<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/diarrhea.html>) Diarrhea can be controlled by washing your child's hands and bathroom surfaces thoroughly. When it stops, it is okay for your child to come back to school.
3. **Coughing:** Children cough, for a long time, we know. The time to keep your child at home when they are coughing is when it is severe and uncontrolled. If it impacts their day to a point where they are not able to participate normally, keep them home. Coughing is hard, and especially as a parent, hard to watch your child suffer through a cough that won't seem to go away. Use your best judgement and always let their teacher know when they may have a bad cough, just so they can be aware and watch your child as well.

The top items to remember when trying to decide if your child should come to school are:

1. **Can your child participate in normal classroom activities- INCLUDING GOING OUTSIDE TO PLAY?** If they are not able to go outside, then they should not be at school.
2. **The child needs more care than teachers and staff are able to give them in a normal day.**
3. **Look at The Center's Sick Child Policy and make sure that your child has none of the symptoms listed on it.** If they do, then keep them home.

Feel free to call and ask Ms. Lizz (486-6923) if you have any questions regarding this policy or if your child should be at school. We would rather answer your questions than have your child at school feeling sick.

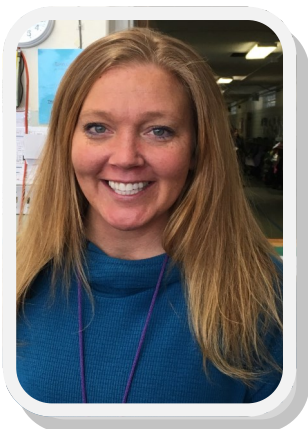
Lake County Community Health Resources

Rocky Mountain Family Practice www.leadvillemfp.com/ 735 Highway 24 South 486-0500	Leadville Medical Clinic www.svghd.org/svh-leadville-medical-clinic 825 West 6th St. 486-1264	School Based Health Center Provides students, families, and staff with convenient access to basic medical, behavioral, and oral health services. Lake County High School 486-6981
Solvista Mental Health www.solvistahealth.org/locations/leadville/ 714 Front Street 486-0985	Lake County Department of Public Health www.lakecountycityco.com/health/ 112 West 5th Street 486-2413	Leadville Dental Center www.leadvilledental.com/ 733 US Hwy 24 South 486-2060

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Submitted by: Lisa Roeder-Family and Community Partnership Manager

Meet our new Teachers at The Center!!



Ms. Abby is the new assistant teacher in Room 2



Ms. Shelby is the new Lead Teacher in Room 2



Ms. Katie is the new assistant teacher in Room 7

Please Join Us

The Center would love to introduce you to it's NEW Home Based Early Head Start Program.

We will be hosting an informational meeting here at The Center. At this meeting you will learn about our Home Based program and the benefits of Early Head Start. You will also meet our Home Visitor, as well as be able to ask your questions. There will be opportunity to fill out an application at this event as well.



When: February 7, 2019

Time: 5:30-7:00 P.M.

Where: The Center Room 9



For more information or questions, please feel free to call Anne Sifuentes @ 719-293-1380 or Lisa Roeder @ 719-486-6928.

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

The children here at The Center have been learning lots. They have studied trees and clothing. We also have a lot of volunteers that help make the preschool program successful!! We would like to THANK the volunteers we have had so far!!

Thanks for taking the time out of your busy schedules!!!



St. Vincent's Hospital , Ski Program Helmets



The Mayor Mr. Labbe



Smokey the Bear & Andrea from the Forest Service.



Jeni Windorski from the Forest Service



Elsa Tharp who did face painting on Halloween and Family Fun Night!!!



Jeff Briggs from the Colorado State Patrol



Ellie Solomon



Darren Brungart



Vince Marcella



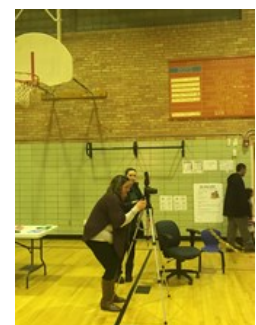
Marika Guthrie showed us how to make art with clothing and material.



Cisco Tharp from Get Outdoors Leadville



Fire Department



Stephanie McElhinney, Photographer, took lots of pictures for us!!

FEBRUARY MENU

If you would like to give your suggestions for the preschool menu, please contact the Health Manager.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday-1
				Cereal & Fruit _____ Spaghetti and meat sauce, veggies, & Fruit _____ Muffin & Fruit
Monday-4	Tuesday-5	Wednesday-6	Thursday-7	Friday-8
Cereal & Fruit _____ Chicken Nuggets, Mac N Cheese, veggies, & Fruit _____ Crackers, Veggies with Ranch	Muffin, Cheese Stick & Fruit _____ Chili Con Carne with Beans, Cornbread, Veggies, & Fruit _____ Cottage Cheese & Pineapple Chunks	Cereal & Fruit _____ Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Sun Chips, Fruit, & Veggies _____ Graham Crackers & Fruit	French Toast Sticks & Fruit _____ Breadsticks, Spaghetti Sauce, Green Beans & Fruit _____ Hard Boiled Egg, Crackers, & Fruit	Cereal & Fruit _____ Nacho's with Beef, Whole Grain Cinnamon Roll, Corn & Fruit _____ Muffin & Fruit
Monday-11	Tuesday-12	Wednesday-13	Thursday-14	Friday-15
Cereal & Fruit _____ Breakfast for Lunch, Fruit Salad _____ Crackers, Veggies with Ranch	Banana Bread Squares & Fruit _____ Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Veggies and Fruit _____ Cheese Sticks and Crackers	Cereal & Fruit _____ Turkey Gravy, Potatoes, Whole Wheat Rolls, and Fruit _____ Banana Bread Squares & Fruit	No School!	No School!
Monday-18	Tuesday-19	Wednesday-20	Thursday-21	Friday-22
No School!	No School!	Cereal & Fruit _____ Beef and Bean Burrito, Corn, & Fruit Salad _____ Graham Crackers & Fruit Salad	French Toast Sticks & Fruit _____ Spaghetti and meat sauce, veggies, & Fruit _____ Hard Boiled Eggs & Animal Crackers	Cereal, Graham Crackers & Fruit _____ Cheeseburger on a Bun, French Fries, & Fruit Salad _____ Muffin & Fruit
Monday-25	Tuesday-26	Wednesday-27	Thursday-28	
Cereal, Gold Fish & Fruit _____ Chicken Nuggets, Mac N Cheese, veggies, & Fruit _____ Crackers, Veggies with Ranch	Banana Bread Squares & Fruit _____ Corn Dog, Yogurt, Veggies & Fruit Salad _____ Cheese Sticks and Crackers	Cereal & Fruit _____ Nacho's with Beef, Whole Grain Cinnamon Roll, Corn & Fruit _____ Banana Bread Squares & Fruit	Whole Grain Bagel, Cream Cheese & Fruit _____ Cheese Pizza, Veggies & Fruit Salad _____ Pretzel with Sun Butter & Fruit Salad	

Breakfast is served at 9:30 with fat free milk

Lunch is served at 12:00 with fat free milk

Snack is served at 3:30 with water

**Menus are subject to
change**

The Center participates in the USDA funded program and is an equal opportunity provider and employer

POLICY COUNCIL

The Center Early Childhood Programs – Policy Council Minutes – Meeting Date – January 8, 2019.

Attending: Chelsa Parsons, Christina Wood-Call In, Anahise Shoukas, Beverly Lauchner, Marika Guthrie, Maria Perez, and Viviana Cano-Call In

Not Attending: Sarah Hart, Kelly Callahan, and Casey McGovern

Roll Call: Lisa and Beverly called roll and determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda: Marika made a motion to approve the agenda, and Anahise seconded. All were in favor and no one was opposed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: from December 5, 2018 Special meeting and November 5, 2018 Regular Meeting. Marika made a motion to approve the two meeting minutes, and Maria seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed.

New Business: Lisa informed the council that Kelly Callahan has resigned her position on the Policy Council, effective starting this meeting. There is no new staff approvals needed at this time. Tanya did update the Council on staffing changes as well as open positions. The Council received all of the documents for tonight's meeting through e-mail. The Council reviewed the Budget Revision Amendment. Tanya explained that the revisions changes are due to hiring of the Early Head Start home visitor. Her position didn't start until later than expected. Having these extra funds it has been asked to move 20,000 from our operation budget to capital expenditures. Tanya explained with these funds a car would be purchased for the program and the Early Head Start home visitor. The Council had time for discussion and questions. Marika made a motion to accept the Budget Revision Amendment and purchase of a vehicle. Chelsa seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed. Tanya also reviewed the Head Start budget and explained spend down. This needs to take place by January 31, 2019.

Treasures Report: The balance of the Parent Activity Fund is \$470.12.

Unfinished Business: The Council continued to talk about spend down of the Parent Activity Fund. This also must take place by January 31, 2019. There were lots of suggestions made as well as ideas. Lisa will put a few lists together based on their ideas, and then the Council will make their suggestions.

Committee Reports: Ellie reported on the Lake County School Board. The board is working on two best grants; they are looking at one for basic maintenance, and the second for a pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade school. She will keep the council updated.

Announcements:

January 8-back to school, January 14-ski school boot fitting, January 15, 16, 17-ski program ski days, January 21-no school MLK Jr Day, January 22, 23, 24-ski program ski days, and February 4-Policy Council regular meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM by Beverly.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Roeder –Substitute Policy Council Secretary

REMINDERS FROM THE CHILD CARE DIRECTOR

Submitted by: Marissa Martinez-Child Care Director

Dear Families

Tax statements for 2018 will be ready for pick up on February 20th, 2019. Please stop by the front office and see me.

Please Join Us for Family Fun Night

At Lake County Public Library

1115 Harrison Ave.

Thursday February 28, 2019

5:30-7:00



HOW TO CONTACT THE CENTER

Please see your child's classroom calendar for your child's teachers email address and phone numbers.

Tanya Lenhard-Director of Early Childhood Programs
(719) 486-6921 tdlenhard@lakecountyschools.net

Marissa Martinez- Child Care Director
(719) 486-6920 mamartinez@lakecountyschools.net

Mary Jelf- Business Manager
(719) 486-6929 mjelf@lakecountyschools.net

Kelly Horning-Education Director
(719) 486-6927 khorning@lakecountyschools.net

Jenny Mascarenaz-Transportation Manager
(719) 486-6925 jmascarenaz@lakecountyschools.net

Lizz Holm- Health Manager
(719) 486-6923 lholtm@lakecountyschools.net

Lisa Roeder - Family and Community Partnership Manager
(719) 486-6928 lroeder@lakecountyschools.net

Lauren Bissonnette- Early Childhood SPED & Child Find
(719) 486-4413 lbissonnette@lakecountyschools.net

Lindsay Rapke- Speech Pathologist
(719) 486-4403 lrappke@lakecountyschools.net

**If you need to call after
3:30 P.M.**

Please call us at 486-6920

***This is the only phone line that s
taffed after 3:30p.m.***



You may leave a message at this number and it will be checked. If you call other numbers, or leave messages at other extensions, your message may not be heard until the following morning.

PARENTS

If you need to reach your child's teacher, please look at your class calendar and information sheet!!!

You may also call 486-6920 and the office will direct your call!!!!

**Lake County School District
The Center
315 West 6th St.
Leadville, Co 80461**