



# The Center



Volume: 17

Issue: 17

## 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

## Preschool News

WELCOME BACK!!!

We are so excited to be back at school!! The beginning of school will look a little different this year as we make it safe for our children and families. There will be six classrooms with ten children in school at this time. Each of the six classrooms will also have six on-line learners. Parents have either requested this type of learning, or children that have been placed on the waitlist will start this way. We hope that we will be allowed to add more children back into the classroom. The six children attending on-line learning would then have the opportunity to move into the classroom.

Drop off and pick up will also look different. We will be doing curbside drop off and pick up. Please bring your child to the front gate on west 6<sup>th</sup> street. There you will be greeted by the management and teaching staff. There will be two tents set up, at these tents your child will wash their hands, have their temperature taken, health questions asked, and you will sign in your child. They then will go with their teacher into the building. At pickup, please come to the same entrance. You then will sign out your child with management staff, and they will call down to the classroom to have your child brought up to you. We understand that this may be challenging for both parents and children, but we will make sure your child feels safe and comforted.

Please remember to have all children wear a mask. Please no outside toys, blankets, stuffed animals, or food. Extra clothes in a backpack and a light coat would be great. Teachers and managers will look through the children's backpacks for any sunscreen, lotion, or chap stick so these items can be locked in the cabinets. Also if you have any important paperwork, we will turn these items in for you.

We know this year will be a little different, but we are excited to get to learn and grow with your child!! Let's have a GREAT YEAR!!!



### September 2020 Events

- August 31st- First Day of School**
- September 7th- No School. The Center is CLOSED.**
- September 11- School Today!!!**
- September 17- Picture Day!**
- September 24- Virtual Coffee Talk 9-10 AM**
- September 24- Family Fun Night 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:

**Holly DeBell** 486-6921  
Director of Early Childhood Programs

**Policy Council** 486-6888  
extension 2190



## Tooth Brushing



This school year with all the preventative measures in place, we will not be brushing our teeth in the classrooms. Please know that it is VERY important to brush your child's teeth every day in the morning and in the evening. This will help them not only with their beautiful smiles, but with their future oral health care. Also, remember to get your child's teeth checked every six months at the dentist and if they need further care have it completed in a timely manner. Tooth pain is no fun!

Thanks-

Lizz:)

As we move further into our school year, we would like to share a few reminders with our families regarding the bus stop.

- Arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes early with your child dressed and ready to board the bus. Waiting for families to arrive to the bus stop can affect our ability to get to the next stop on time and the additional wait time can be difficult for the children already on the bus.
- An adult must wait with the children until they safely board the bus.
- Our bus times are approximate. We appreciate your patience as you wait for the bus to arrive.

Your child's safety is our primary concern! Thank you for your support so our bus system can continue to run smoothly!



It is important for you to call when your Head Start child will not be attending school, and when they will not be riding the bus.

For bus changes in the morning you need to call by 7:30am

For bus changes in the afternoon you need to call by 12:30pm

**486-6920**

Welcome to a new school year! Even though the start of our 2020-2021 school year looks a bit different than last year, we at The Center are all still so excited to see your children either in person or virtually. There would be two new family engagement tool we will be using at The Center this year; ReadyRosie and MyTeachingStrategies Family. Both tools



### ReadyRosie

We will be partnering with the educational resource ReadyRosie to share powerful games and expert videos that support children’s learning. Through our partnership with ReadyRosie families will have free access to their learning website and tools.

#### How It Works:

- Watch videos modeling games and conversations that support what we are learning in school.
- Do the activities with your child and have fun learning together!
- Share your experiences with your child’s classroom teachers.

### MyTeachingStrategies Family

We’re so excited to announce that we will be using a digital family tool that allows you to engage in two-way communication with your child’s teachers in real time through the MyTeachingStrategies Family. This tool creates a virtual conversation that you, additional family members, and your child’s teachers can all contribute to. It is our hope that opening up this line of two-way communication allows you to feel more connected and informed while your child is in school or engaged in distance learning. This can be access through your preferred devices and download the app for free from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Jackie Lujan

Assistant Director of Education

## **It's Not Too Late to Respond to the 2020 Census and Shape Your Future**

The 2020 Census has been underway since earlier this year, but if you haven't responded yet, it's not too late to respond and shape your future.

You can still complete the questionnaire yourself **online at 2020census.gov, by calling 844-330-2020, or by returning the paper form you received in the mail.** Respond using the address where you were living on April 1, 2020 and include anyone who was living with you at the time.

Your response matters – as does that of your friends, family, and neighbors – because the results of the 2020 Census determine how many seats your state gets in the U.S. House of Representatives and inform how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding will be allocated every year to communities like yours across the country. You can view your state, city, or county's response rates via our online interactive map. If you respond on your own now, it is less likely that a census taker will visit you in person later this summer to help you complete the questionnaire. However, if someone from the Census Bureau does visit you, please cooperate with them. You'll know they are a Census Bureau employee by their identification badge, which will have their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date. All census takers have been trained on social distancing protocols, will be issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will follow local guidelines for its use.

The once-a-decade population count is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Responses to the census inform planning and funding decisions for emergency and disaster response, healthcare and hospitals, schools and education, roads and bridges, and other vital community resources. Census responses shape the future for everyone, whether you live in a city or a small town, a rural area, on a boat, or in an RV. It impacts children, college students, and adults of all ages.

### **That's why everyone should respond and be counted.**

If you're not able to verify if someone else in your household has already responded, such as a roommate or family member, go ahead and respond and include everyone in your household in your response; the Census Bureau eliminates duplicate responses when processing the questionnaires.

Your answers to the 2020 Census questionnaire are strictly confidential and protected by law. Your census responses cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way. Responses are only used to produce statistics.

<https://2020census.gov/en/what-is-2020-census/focus/not-too-late.html>



## **Child Find** **Early intervention for children with special needs**

Every county in Colorado has professionals who are trained to evaluate children in a variety of areas, including cognitive functioning, physical functioning, hearing and vision, speech and language and social and emotional development. This service is referred to as Child Find. Evaluations are conducted by the Child Find team at no cost to parents.

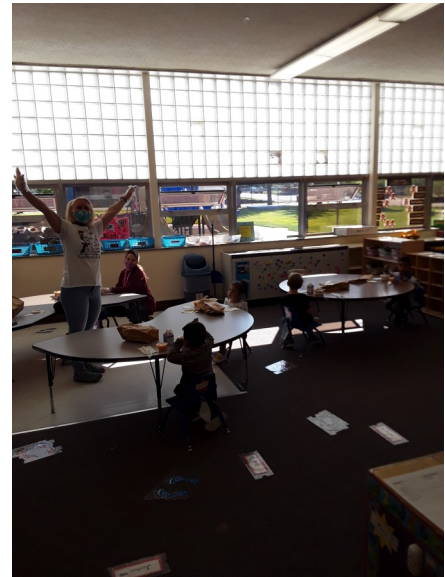
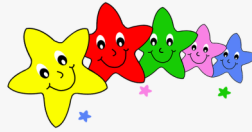
Once the child find evaluation team, which includes the parents, has gathered sufficient information used to determine a child's eligibility for early intervention or preschool special education services, an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP; birth to three years of age) or an Individual Education Plan (IEP; three to five years of age) is developed and services begin shortly.

Children under the age of six may be referred at any time for an eligibility determination for early intervention (ages birth to three) or preschool special education services (ages three through five). Here in Lake County, our very own Kelly Horning is the first contact for families interested in a Child Find evaluation. Please reach out to her at [khorning@lakecountyschools.net](mailto:khorning@lakecountyschools.net) or 719-486-4405.

# First day of school!!!



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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

### HOW TO CONTACT THE CENTER

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

Holly DeBell-Director of Early Childhood Programs  
(719) 486-6921 hdbell@lakecountyschools.net

Marissa Martinez- Child Care Director  
(719) 486-6925 mamartinez@lakecountyschools.net

Mary Jelf- Business Manager  
(719) 486-6927 mjelf@lakecountyschools.net

Jackie Lujan-Education Director  
(719) 486-6927 jlujan@lakecountyschools.net

Jenny Mascarenaz-Transportation Manager  
(719) 486-6920 jmascarenaz@lakecountyschools.net

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

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

Kelly Horning- Early Childhood SPED & Child Find  
(719) 486-4406 khorning@lakecountyschools.net

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

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

**Please call us at 486-6925**  
*This is the only phone line that s  
staffed 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

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