



The Center

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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

COVID cancels Learn-to-Ski program

We are very sad to announce that due to the COVID pandemic, Ski Cooper is not able to partner with us to run the Learn-to-Ski program as usual this year. We look forward to renewing the partnership next year.

Instead of the formal lessons or big group activities, we are planning different, fun things for kids and families to do to get outside and enjoy the cool crisp air of winter and all the fluffy snow.

Please watch for more information about those new activities and join us in celebrating winter fun.



Families,

**Please Remember to check your child's backpack everyday after school!!!
We often send home important paperwork, notes, reminders, and often wet clothes!!!!**

Thanks!!!

November 2020 Events



November 5th—Virtual Coffee Talk 9:00-10:00

November 19th-Classrooms COVID style Thanksgiving Celebration. We can't have a lunch, but the classrooms will have a Thanksgiving Theme.

November 25, 26, & 27th-Fall Break. No School and The Center is Closed.

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

Dear Families,

We've noticed that children are often interested in life's most ordinary things. Whenever we go outside, there is always a lot of interest in insects. Children find them, watch them, follow them, and try to capture them. In their play at school, the children have shared their curiosity about the different types of insects they see, how insects move, where and when we see insects, and the kinds of jobs that involve insects. We think a study of insects will be a great opportunity for children to explore their interests. We need your help gathering items for our study! If you can, we'd appreciate your help in gathering materials related to insects. We'll need many different objects and pictures related to insects. We will begin our study by collecting books or pictures of insects. Here's a list of suggested items, but feel free to send other items that you think may add to our exploration. Please label all items with your name so we can return them to you at the end of our study. We promise to take good care of them! Also, please let us know if someone in your family has a job or hobby related to insects (e.g., nature photographer, gardener, beekeeper, exterminator) and would like to share their expertise with the class. We would love to arrange a time for you to join us virtually in our investigation or if preferred you can video tape yourself and then we will share it to the class.

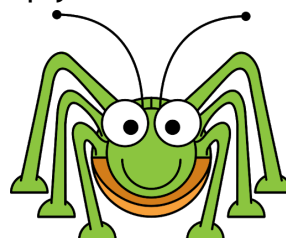
Clear plastic jars	Tweezers
Ant farms	Honeycomb
Realistic toy insects	Abandoned insect nest
Microscope with prepared slides showing insect specimens, e.g., wings, or an insect leg	Insect collections
Photos of insects	Insect houses or insect viewing spheres
Nets	Non-fiction books about insects
	Beekeeping garments or materials

What You Can Do at Home

Talk with your child about the different kinds of insects you see. If possible, examine harmless insects you notice in the community. What features do they have? Point out interesting features, such as the colors, patterns, where they live, how they move (e.g., do they fly, crawl, or jump?), and how some insects are harmless and some are dangerous. Notice people whose work involves insects, like gardener, exterminators, or beekeepers. What equipment do they use? Invite your child to think about why some insects are pests and why some are helpful. What kind of supplies do you need to capture and examine insects without hurting them? Help your child to release captured insects after you've had a chance to explore them.

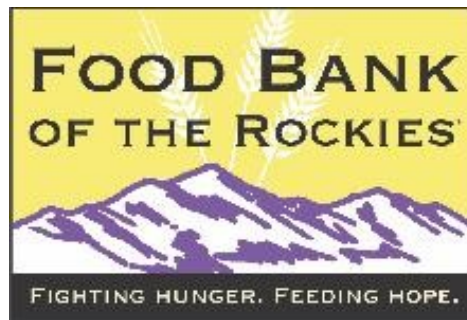
Thank you for playing an important role in our learning.

Jackie Lujan
Assistant Director of Education



Fun at School!!!





Food Bank of the Rockies

200 West 4th Street-St. George Episcopal Church

Will be distribute Free Food the
3rd Wednesday of the month
starting at 9:00 A.M.

Food Distribution will also take place
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday &
Friday 11:00-1:00 P.M. and
Saturday's 11:00-12:00 P.M.

No eligibility requirements!

Please call with questions
(719) 486-3087.

Information and assistance with
Applications for SNAP (food stamps)
will be available during this time.

Bring a bag, box, or laundry basket.

Please NOTE, the Food Bank is currently operating within the safety guidelines and recommendations of the CDC by using a drive-through model. They are still able to accommodate those without a vehicle. Please wear a mask to protect the health of volunteers.



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 or 719-486-4405.

Policy Council

The Center Early Childhood Programs – Policy Council Minutes – Meeting Date – October 8, 2020

Attending: Ashlee Cruz, Katrina Hanger, Olivia DeVargas, and Jasmine Bujanda

Not Attending: Fernando Luna and Audra Kahrs

Roll Call: Due to COVID-19, our meeting was conducted through Google Meets. Lisa called roll and determined that there was a quorum present.

Approval of Agenda: Katrina made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Olivia seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed.

Approval of Minutes: The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from September 21, 2020. Katrina made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ashlee seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed.

Parent Activity Fund: The Council reviewed the Parent Activity Fund. There will be talk about spend down at our November meeting.

Training: Mary Jelf was at our meeting to train the council on The Center's Head Start and Early Head Start Budgets.

New Business: The Council discussed the candidates for Policy Council Officers.

Katrina Hanger volunteered to be the Policy Council Treasurer. Ashlee made a motion to accept Katrina as the 2020-2021 Policy Council Treasurer. Olivia seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed. Ashlee Cruz volunteered to be the Policy Council Secretary. Olivia made a motion to accept Ashlee as the 2020-2021 Policy Council Secretary. Katrina seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed. Olivia DeVargas volunteered to be the Policy Council Chairperson. Ashlee made a motion to accept Olivia as the 2020-2021 Policy Council Chairperson. Katrina seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed. Mary Jelf introduced to the Council the Continuation Grant. She informed the Council of changes that had been made. The Council had time for discussion and questions. Katrina made a motion to accept the Continuation Grant. Olivia seconded and all were in favor with no one opposed. Mary also brought to the Council the Request for Non-Federal match waiver for Fiscal Year 20. Mary explained to the council why this is needed. She also explained In-Kind and what it does for our program. The Council had time for questions and discussion. Ashlee made a motion to accept the Non-Federal Match Waiver. Katrina seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed. Staff Handbooks were also given to the Council through email. The Council opened up for discussion. Ashlee made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Staff Handbook. Katrina seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed.

Unfinished Business: The Policy Council Bylaws were discussed. These Bylaws will be reviewed at the November meeting as there are still changes being made. The Program Governance was also tabled until the November meeting.

Announcements: October 1-Virtual Evening Coffee Talk 6:00-7:00 PM, October 15-Virtual Coffee Talk 9:00-10:00 AM, October 15- Picture Day, October 27-COVID style classroom celebrations, October 28-Parent / Teacher Conferences 10:00-6:00. The Center is CLOSED. October 29-Parent / Teacher Conferences 12:00-8:00. The Center will be CLOSED. November 12-November's regular Policy Council Meeting. Virtual 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Roeder – Substitute for the Policy Council Secretary



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 is
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**