



# The Center



Volume: 22

Issue: 22

## 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

Along with your help, our preschoolers will get the opportunity to experience receiving mail. Please encourage your friends and family members to write to your child. Our classes can talk about the different places letters come from. Just a reminder, we ask that packages and letters do not include food or candy.

### Please address letters to:

*The Center  
Attention- (your child's name and Room #)  
315 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Leadville, CO 80461*

We have two ways that you can send mail to your child stamp free. There will be a mailbox in the front by drop off and pick up station. Please feel free to drop letters and notes to your child. If your child rides a bus you can give your mail to the bus monitor and they will be sure that it gets into our on-site mailbox. We will check this mailbox daily and deliver letters to the appropriate classrooms.

We will begin mail delivery starting **Monday February 1, 2021** and will continue through **March 31, 2021**. Any mail that comes before February 1 will just be held until our first official delivery date so please begin sending items at your convenience.

One of our February practice pack calendar activities is to make a mailbox with your child. These will remain in your child's classroom during our mail delivery period so that we can deliver their mail to their own special mailbox. Feel free to use any shoe boxes or other cardboard boxes to make the mail box. We will set-up a station by the front where you can pick-up some materials to use for making mail box.

If you have any questions concerning mail month at The Center feel free to contact your child's teachers.

Thank you,

Jackie Lujan

Assistant Director of Education



## February 2021 Events

**February 4-Evening Coffee talk 6:00-7:00 p.m.**

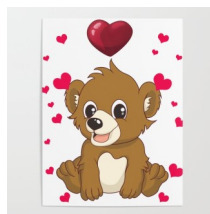
**February 5-Professional Development Day**

**February 11-Valentine's Classroom Celebrations**

**February 15-No School Holiday**

**February 18-Evening Coffee Talk 6:00-7:00 p.m.**

**February 19-There is school TODAY!!**



### 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

**Tax statements** for 2020 are ready! Please stop in the front office and see Marissa to pick yours up! If you need to receive it digitally please let Marissa know.

Thanks,

**Marissa Martinez**

Child Care Director

The Center Early Childhood Programs

Lake County School District R-1

719-486-6925

[mamartinez@lakecountyschools.net](mailto:mamartinez@lakecountyschools.net)



Preschool families can still participate in the current "Explore Your Community" project at the Lake County Recreation Department's ice rink until February 16, weather permitting.

Just use the "passport" that was in your child's backpack last month. You can take this passport to the ice rink during their regular open hours and enjoy free admission and skate rental for up to four family members, including your preschooler.

You can get your passport stamped at the ice rink, fill out the brief survey on the back, and return it to school for a free book for your child.

The ice rink has a limited number of teeny-tiny ice skates to rent, and some afternoons are busy there, so we also have some little ice skates you can borrow from our Family Resource Office. Just contact Ms. Lisa or Ms. Mary to sign them out. We can have them ready for you at the door when you sign your child out for the day or send them home on the bus.

The ice rink is open depending on weather. Some years the ice melts earlier than others, so please plan your visit soon. Updated status of the ice rink is available at the Rec Department's website at : <https://www.lakecountyco.com/recreation/pages/huck-finn-ice-rink>

If you have any other questions at all about the Explore Your Community program, please contact Mary at 719-486-6927 or [mjelf@lakecountyschools.net](mailto:mjelf@lakecountyschools.net).

Winter is an exciting time for kids. It brings great outdoor activities, such as snowboarding and skating, but also cold weather, ice and snow, which can present a danger to children. But that doesn't mean they can't enjoy the winter. Here are some winter safety tips.

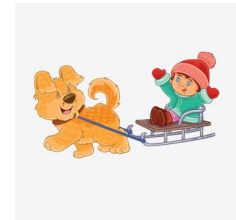
### **Ice Skating**



- Make sure children always wear a hockey or ski helmet while skating.
- Make sure children's skates are comfortable, with good ankle support, to avoid twists, sprains or breaks.
- When possible, have children skate on public indoor or outdoor rinks. If this is not possible, children should remember to:
  - Obey all signs posted on or near the ice. Yellow signs usually mean skate with caution, and red usually means no skating allowed.
  - Make sure they are always supervised on the ice.
  - Never assume it's safe to skate on a lake or pond. An adult should make sure the ice is at least 10 cm (four inches) thick, and check with local weather authorities for information about ice thickness.
  - Avoid walking on ice near moving water. Ice formed on moving water, such as rivers and creeks, will vary in thickness and is highly unpredictable.

### **Skiing/Snowboarding**

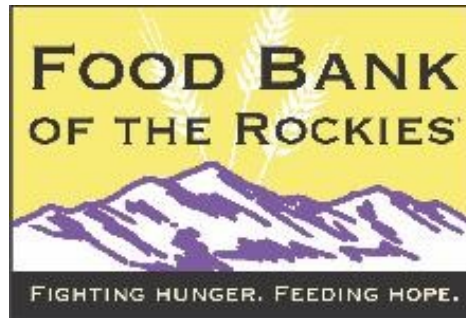
- Take lessons from a qualified skiing or snowboarding instructor.
- Never ski or snowboard alone.
- With parents, check equipment every year for fit and maintenance. Bindings should be checked annually by a qualified technician.
- Make sure they're in control of their speed. Many injuries result from a loss of control. Stunts and fatigue also lead to injuries.
  - Always wear a helmet with side vents that allow them to hear.
  - When snowboarding, wear wrist guards to reduce the risk of wrist injury.
  - Dress safely. Wear brightly-colored clothing, and warm hats and mittens.
  - Avoid icy hills. The risk of falls and injuries increases in icy conditions.
  - Watch out for other skiers and snowboarders, as well as any other obstacles, on the slopes.
  - Stay in designated areas and on marked trails.



### **Sledding**

- Always wear either a ski or hockey helmet – not a bicycle helmet – while sledding.
- Never use a sled with sharp or jagged edges.
- Make sure the handholds on the sled are secure.
- Always sit up or kneel on a sled. Laying down increases the risk of head, spine and abdominal injuries.
- Never sled on or near roadways.
- Look for shallow slopes that are free of trees, fences or other obstacles.
- Avoid sledding on crowded slopes.





***Food Bank of the Rockies***  
***200 West 4th Street-St. George Episcopal Church***  
***Beginning December 1, 2020***

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

No eligibility requirements!

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

**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.**

Food Pantry will be open:  
Wednesday & Saturday's 9-1:00  
Seniors hours-Wednesday's 9-10  
Only 3 people (families) at a time!

Please call with questions  
(719) 486-3087.

Bring a bag, box, or laundry basket.



***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.

Policy Council

The Center Early Childhood Programs – Policy Council Minutes – Meeting Date – January 13, 2021

**Attending:** Katrina Hanger, and Chelsea Luna

**Not Attending:** Ashlee Cruz, Jasmine Bujanda, Olivia DeVargas

**Roll Call:** Due to COVID-19, our meeting was conducted through Google Meets. Lisa called roll and determined that there was not a quorum present.

**Approval of Agenda:** There was not a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes:** There was not a quorum present

**Parent Activity Fund:** The Council was emailed the Parent Activity Fund to review.

**New Business:** Do to there not being a quorum and the second member arriving late, the meeting was canceled. Lisa emailed everyone and set up a special meeting to discuss the spenddown of the Parent Activity Fund.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Announcements:** February 4-Evening Coffee Talk 6:00-7:00p.m., February 5-Professional Development Day, February 11-Valentines classroom celebrations, February 15-No School-Holiday, February 18-Evening Coffee Talk 6:00-7:00p.m., February 19-There is school TODAY!! February 11-Regular Policy Council Meeting.

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 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**