

Communication Link

CESA #11 Head Start

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP

Three Policy Council members were recognized during the December PC meeting for their dedication to Head Start/Early Head Start children and families and their leadership within the Policy Council. Jill Becker, Secretary, Alicia Lemke, Sergeant at Arms, and Annette Haase, WHSA Representative, each served three years on the Policy Council. Their passion for high quality early childhood educational services have been greatly appreciated and will certainly be missed.



Sharon Glessing, Director

SCHOOL READINESS, FROM THE BEGINNING

In the summer of 1965, the first Head Start programs were opened. As the name suggests, giving children a “Head Start” was the focus from the beginning. As we move into the future, the focus remains the same. Ensuring that children are healthy and developing physically, emotionally, socially, and cognitively is the aim for all our centers.

The *Head Start Early Learning and Development Framework* (updated 2010) highlights current thoughts on necessary areas of development and learning that are linked to the readiness knowledge and skills of three-five year olds. Parents help develop individual goals for their children at the first home visit. Teachers offer quality learning experiences in our center-based programs to enhance school readiness in children and families. The framework offers a guideline for parents and teachers to build children’s capacity to learn.

Our program recognizes that learning begins at birth. Early Head Start staff, working with infants, toddlers, and their families, appreciate the importance of the early years. Promoting and helping to build relationships within the family supports school readiness. The Early Head Start National Resource Center has defined school readiness (for birth to age three) as “an increasing degree of self-regulation, the ability to pay attention, the development of memory, comfort and skills in maintaining relationships, curiosity, and confidence” (*National Center on Quality Teaching & Learning, 2011*).

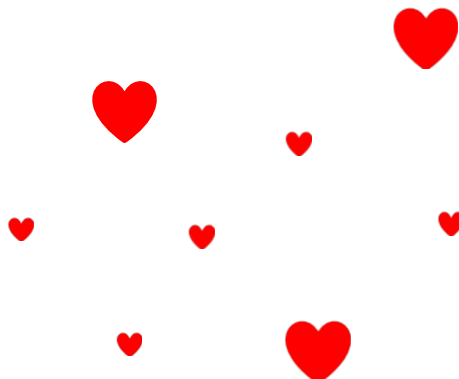
The Head Start Act of 2007 mandates that Head Start programs support school readiness and develop school readiness goals. When developing these goals, our program looked at data from child assessments, along with parent input, and the Head Start Outcomes Framework. Policy Council members shared their ideas and helped develop goals in the five essential domains of learning including; language and literacy, cognition and general knowledge, approaches toward learning, physical development and health, and social-emotional development.

These school readiness goals will be reassessed throughout the year to determine how children are doing, and if any program changes need to be made to facilitate growth and development. A special thank you to all the parents and staff for their support of children’s learning! You consistently provide opportunities for school readiness, from the beginning.

Beth Tilleson, Children’s Services Coordinator

References:

National Center on Quality Teaching & Learning. (2011). *School Readiness for All Children: Using Data to Support Child Outcomes*. Washington, D.C.: Office of Head Start.



HEAD START COOKS SPEND THE DAY WITH CHEF JENO

Our Nutrition Staff gathered at New Richmond on January 18th for a presentation from Chef Jenö Herman of Bistro-63 in Barronett, WI. As part of our Wellness Grant, we asked Chef Jenö to come and talk to us about using herbs, fresh ingredients, and other healthy cooking tips for use during meal preparation at our centers.

Chef Jenö prepared breakfast burritos, muffins, yogurt, and fruit parfaits in the a.m. as well as pan seared tilapia, baked chicken, pizza, etc. all seasoned with fresh and/or dried herbs. Staff made their own lunch using all of the great ingredients that Chef Jenö brought and demonstrated with.

Our Cooks already do a great job serving meals to our Head Start children and we hope you enjoyed this day and came away with fresh ideas.

Submitted by Brenda Rouzer, CACFP Mgr. and Deb Toycen, Nutrition Coordinator



Chef Jenö Herman using fresh herbs to season tilapia.



Chef Jenö presenting pan seared tilapia.



Staff preparing their own lunch using the Chef's ingredients.

***For more
information
about Jenö's
restaurant go to:
Bistro-63.com***

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FAFSA? (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

The Wisconsin Association for Student Financial Aid Administrators is sponsoring events in twenty-nine locations statewide on Saturday, Feb 18, or Sunday, Feb 19, to offer financial aid assistance. A completed federal income tax return for 2011 and W2 statement will be required to complete forms.

More information can be found by going to the following Website: www.collegegoalwi.org.

Janet Ramis, HR Consultant

POLK COUNTY EARLY LEARNING CENTER'S LAST SOCIALIZATION FOR 2011

Polk County Early Head Start made gingerbread people on construction paper on December 1st. While we left them to dry, we discovered that they had run away! After a lot of guessing where they may have run to, we found them on December 15th. The librarian from the St. Croix Falls Library had caught them all!

At the library, we not only found our gingerbread people, but we listened to a few stories, enjoyed lunch, made an art project that the library set up for us, and finally we were able to decorate our gingerbread people cookies!

A good time was had by all!

Jennifer Ulmaniec, Home Visitor



WINTER CAR CARE

On Thursday, December 15th, 2011, Scott Coss, Advanced Auto Parts Manager, and Chris Loberg, owner of Loberg Auto Glass, both of Menomonie, visited the Menomonie Head Start. Scott provided a presentation on winter car care, addressing the importance of checking your lights, fluids, and tire pressure during the winter to ensure driver safety. He also presented each family with a free bag of winter safety items including an ice scraper, de-icer for the windshield and locks, a tire gauge, a bottle of Heet, and hand warmers. Chris Loberg also provided a presentation on the importance of fixing chips in your windshield and maintaining good windshield wipers to avoid dangerous situations. Mr. Coss and Mr. Loberg brought the families outside to look under the hood of a car to show exactly what should be checked and how to check it. Each family came away with some new and helpful ways to promote winter car maintenance and safe winter driving.

Laura Bundy, Family Resource Provider



OUR LOIS DOES IT AGAIN!



Dallas Early Learning Center's very own Lois Jacobsen has once again won first place in the annual Gingerbread House competition at the 5 O'Clock Club.

Pictured are the front and back of this year's winning house.

Marcia B. Link, Center Assistant

SNOWBALL DANCE

On January 11th, a Winter Snowball Dance was held at the Stanley Boyd Early Learning Center. Head Start parents, using parent activity fund money, invited all EHS, HS, Early Childhood, and Stanley-Boyd 4K families to join in the fun of dancing, making dancing ribbons, making coffee filter snowflakes, and toothpick & marshmallow snowflakes, along with enjoying some punch and snacks.



The best part of the evening for many of the kids was the limbo!

Thank you to parents: Robert, Camielle, Heather, and Jennifer who came early for setup, and stayed late for cleanup!

Kristin Karnes-Frederickson, Home Visitor



Do not confine your children to your own learning, for they were born in another time.

~ Chinese proverb

Visit our Website at:
www.cesa11.k12.wi.us/hs

*Production/Layout –
Laurie Campbell, Program Secretary*

