



September Newsletter

Wood County Head Start- West Center September 2022

Drop Off and Pick Up

Please drop your children off in the driveway or along the road side out front. Please do not block the neighbors mailboxes or driveways. Thank you!

Please press the button located on to the left of the front entrance and we will buzz you in.



We will be voting for our Policy Council Representatives this month . Policy Council meets once a month and makes decisions that affect not only the West Center, but the agency as a whole. If you are interested in being a part of our Policy Council, please contact your Family Service Worker Nicole 715-422-0423. (Information about Policy Council is on page 4.)



Sick Child

We want to send a friendly reminder to all that if your child is sick, please call the school and let us know. It is very important that we know if a child will not be coming to school. If we do not hear from you, we will be calling to check the status of your child.

A big thank you for your help with this matter!



Hey families,

This year we'll be encouraging positive skills, like perseverance and teamwork, with Class Dojo. We'll also rely on it to communicate with one another: instantly sharing messages, updates, events, and photos from class. It's simple, secure, and gives you a window into their school day!

Messaging

Confidential conversation with your child's teacher or FSW

Center Hours

Infant Toddler Rooms- 7:30-4:15
Preschool Room 8:15-3:15

Center Contact Information

Family Service Worker
Nicole: (715) 422-0423
Cell: (715) 213-8424

Preschoolers Teachers
(715) 422-0421

Infant Room
(715) 422-0442

Toddler Room
(715) 422-0422

Administrative Office
(715) 421-2066





Over the Kitchen Counter

Welcome to a new school year everyone! I hope you had a wonderful summer! I am so excited for this new school year! I am also very excited about our meal and snack menus this year. There will be many new and different items for the students to enjoy. We will be incorporating more fun foods and dips for the children to explore, along with many new dishes. It is our goal to make this food appealing to the children as well as delicious and healthy!

Allergy Notice- Preschool Classroom

Our Preschool Classroom is peanut free. Please do not bring snacks to the classroom that may contain peanuts. Thank you!





What Is the Policy Council?

Parents and family members often have questions about their program's Policy Council. Explore this tip sheet to learn answers to common questions about the Policy Council.

As a parent, you may wonder what the Policy Council is and about its role in Head Start and Early Head Start programs. You may have questions about how to join, serve on, or leave the Policy Council.

We encourage you to discuss your questions with your child's teacher, your family service worker, the program director, or other staff. They can partner with you to make your Policy Council experience the best it can be.

The Policy Council is a group of Head Start and Early Head Start parents and community members who help lead and make decisions about their program. Policy Council members are elected by the parents of children enrolled in the program. Parents often join the Policy Council after serving on a parent committee.

The Policy Council meets regularly as a group. Members can serve for one year at a time, and for up to five years. They work closely with the program's management team and governing body to provide overall direction for the program.

Why Do Head Start and Early Head Start Programs Have a Policy Council?

When Head Start began in 1965, its founders understood that parents are essential partners in educating young children. They felt parents should help decide how Head Start services can most benefit their family and other families in the community.

Head Start created the Policy Council as a formal leadership and policy-making role for parents. Today, every Head Start and Early Head Start program must have a Policy Council as part of its leadership structure. Through the Policy Council, parents have a voice in decisions about how the program spends money, what children do in their classrooms, and how the program works with community partners.

Children, parents, and the program benefit when parents take on leadership roles. Children learn more and experience healthier development at school and at home. Parents can become more confident, gain skills, and connect with other parents and staff. Program staff learn about the strengths, interests, and needs of the children, families, and community they serve.



What is the Parent Committee?

The Parent Committee is a newly organized group that consists of individuals who play a significant role in a child's experiences at Head Start. This committee is similar to Policy Council but at the center level. Individuals can be both a Parent Committee Member as well as a Policy Council Representative.

What does the Parent Committee do?

Members of the Parent Committee will have the opportunity to learn about and to provide feedback on selected curricula and instructional materials used in the program. They will be able to give suggestions and opinions on special event activities, fieldtrip opportunities, and what their child is learning throughout the school year to ensure that he or she is ready for the next step in their education. Parent Committee members will give ideas on topics that they feel parents would like to learn more about as well as share information with other members regarding community resources and local events. They will be encouraged to share information about Head Start with the community such as what the Head Start program has to offer, how to register children, and what job openings are available.

How often does the group meet?

Meetings will be held three times throughout the school year and will be held at the center. We will discuss on our first meeting the best times and dates that work for most parents to attend our parent committee meetings.

What does being a member mean?

Members of the Parent Committee will be given the opportunity to be engaged in their child's education while giving parents and family members the opportunity to recognize their role as a child's lifelong educator.

How do I become involved?

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Committee member, please call your Family Service Worker Nicole at 715-422-0423.