Greetings from the Mounds Early Learning Center.

We have been in session now for a couple weeks and the children are beginning to get into a routine beginning with the entrance screening to the wearing of a mask and seeing the adults with masks on. You as Parents would really be surprised how accepting the children are to this change.

In a world of many changes we are hoping that one day we will wake up to a virus free world, where we could return to our regular way of teaching our children, but in the meantime for every ones safety precautions need to be followed. If there is a period of time we have to return to remote learning, rest assured it is for the safety of everyone. I am hoping for a good year, one were we can bring all the children back on site. We miss all our children– keep learning and sending those home time activities back– We will see you in next month’s newsletter.

Lets have a fantastic year and remember –WE NEED YOU!! For answers to any questions or concerns, please call the site at 745-6703 and ask for Ms. Lonnie.

Ms. Lonnie
I am so excited to announce that I now have a new position at the center. I am now the Assistant Site Supervisor/Parent Coordinator! So, please welcome the new Office Associate, Ms. Rose to the center along with our new Program Assistant, Ms. Jacy. Thank you to all the families who have come to the center to sign papers and to go over the Covid 19 Policy. Please be patient with us as we go through this process of signing children in and signing children out, it may take longer, but it is to ensure the safety of the children, staff and family. We have to clean the screening area after each family leaves. I have passed out our Illness and Attendance Policy.

If you need any assistance please do not hesitate to call us at the center and we will do our best to help you. I look forward to working with the families this year, even though we have to make some changes in how we have our Parent Group Meetings as well as complete the papers that we need. If your child is in Traditional Head Start, please call and schedule them a dental, if you need names of Dentists, I can help you. Dental Safari will be at the center on September 16 to conduct Dental Exams and Cleanings. If you would like for your child to get an exam and cleaning please ask me for a Dental Consent and return it to the center along with your medical card. By attending the Dental Safari, it saves you from going to the dentist! I can also help you with getting your child’s Certified Birth Certificate. Within the next few weeks, I will be calling you to conduct the First Family Assessment on the phone and to establish a Family Goal. Please make sure that you have an updated phone number on file in the office. We need to keep one in case of an emergency! I also would like to let you know of something new this year! Each class will have their own personal Facebook Page! So, if you have a Facebook Account, please let us know so that we can add you to the correct classroom. We will still keep our Mounds Early Learning Center Page. The staff is looking forward to sharing with you story time, activities, and pictures of the children!

Next, I would like to remind you that only the people you have listed on the pick up list will be able to pick up your child. If you need to add a person on the list, please remember that you have to make the add on in person, the person you are adding must be over 15, and only the person who signed the application can make the change.

We are collecting Prairie Farms Milk Lids in order to raise money for our center, if you have any lids please send them to the center.

In closing, I look forward to working with all of you this school year! I am so excited to get to know all of you! For the families who are doing the remote learning, please call me if you need assistance, and I will be seeing you when you pick up your home packet!! Let’s have a safe and fun year full of learning and growth!

Ms. Cindy

“Time flies, before you know it, little children grow up and become adults and go on their way. You can not stop time. What you can do is take time to enjoy children. When a child smiles, take time to enjoy that smile. If you hear a child say something, take time to savor the moment. These are all precious gifts that can NEVER “fly away” no matter how much time flies. They are your memories to last with FOREVER!” Maryln Applebaum
We would like to welcome our new friends and our returning friends back to school. We hope everyone is excited about school this year. This month in our room, we will be working on helping the children adjust to the school routine and getting to know each other.

As you know, we will be sending home some “homework” with your child and ask that all families please complete and return the “homework”. We ask that all families please be involved by completing the homework. By completing the activities, you are reinforcing the learning experiences that your child participates in at the center.

We ask that you please send a complete change of weather appropriate clothing to the center for your child. Accidents may happen and to avoid you from having to bring two changes of clothing, it is easier to have some at the center. Please call if you have any concerns or questions! Looking forward to a great school year!

Thank – You,
Ms. Stephanie, and Ms. Kelly, Ms. Ronique, Ms. Katina, Ms. Keisha, Ms. Paulette, Ms. Crystal and Ms. Jacy

I am so excited to be able to participate in your child’s learning and development! I have been enjoying getting to know the children and families. For the month of September, we will be working on the letter “A”, the number “0” and the shape of the circle and the color blue. We will be working on remembering and following the rules of the classroom and how to be safe by wearing a mask and being 6 feet apart. I am also needing you to bring a complete weather appropriate change of clothing to the center with your child. If your child has an accident, we do not have any extra clothes at the center and will result in calling somebody to bring the clothing.

Within the next few weeks, I will be sending home the “Home Time Activities”. Please work with your child on completing and returning the papers. It not only provides developmental and fun Family Time, but, also provides the opportunity for you to be able to participate in your child’s learning fun! If you would like for your child to work on developing a certain skill or you have any concerns, please feel free to talk to me! I would love to have your input on what your child learns at the center! I will also be sending home packets for those students who are remote learners.

Finally, we are looking for new friends to join us in our room, if you know of any children ages three to five who are not in school, please let Ms. Cindy know so that she can contact them to do an intake. I am looking forward to a great 2020-2021 School Year!

Ms. Jennifer

September Birthdays:
Happy Birthday to Chyna 9/5/18, McKenzie 9/19/18, Jessica 9/23/19, Ms. Jameca 9/18
Nutrition News

Welcome to the Mounds Head Start Center! While at Head Start, your child will be served a healthy Breakfast, Lunch and Snack. A monthly menu will be attached to every newsletter. Please remember that the menu may change.

If you bring snacks for your child’s classroom to the center, please remember, we prefer Healthy Snacks. Snacks must arrive to the center in the original packaging and must be store bought. If you have any questions, please ask your child’s teacher.

Due to Covid-19 we will not be serving meals family style. Each meal will be served in individually wrapped plates. We will resume Family Style after Covid-19. A Family Style Meal is when everybody is at the table and the serving bowls are passed and each person serves their own food on their plate. The importance of these meals is that it promotes Self Help Skills, Hand Eye Coordination, Fine Motor Skills, and Language Skills.

We would like to remind the families that if your child has a food allergy or food restriction, to please make sure the information is in your child’s file and the correct forms are completed. Hope everybody has a Healthy School Year!

Ms. Jameca

Welcome Ms. Jacy

Hello, my name is Ms. Jacy and I am 23 years old. I am the new Program Assistant here at the Mounds Early Learning Center. I am eager to get to know the children and their parents. I’m looking forward to a great 1st year here at the center!

September Attendance News

Perfect Attendance: Cyilia, Percy, Malia, Kaylub, Jessica, Taliyah, Vincent . . . .

Average Attendance: Kash, Willow, Legend...
In Kind Information

Welcome to Southern Seven Early Head Start/Head Start program. We would like to take this opportunity to explain to you how IMPORTANT our VOLUNTEERS and DONATIONS are. Not only do children and staff enjoy our parents, grandparents, family and community members volunteering, but our agency earns IN KIND every time we have a VOLUNTEER or a DONATION.

What is In Kind? Since we are a federally grant funded program, the federal government will give us 80% of our funds needed to run our program, but, we have to match 20% of that from local funds. This 20% is called In Kind. If we can not meet our 20% In Kind, we can lose $4.00 of federal funding for every $1.00 of In Kind that we fail to receive. Failing to match the 20% can also mean cuts to our program, which in turn affects the services that we provide to our children, parents, and staff by reaching our In Kind goal, you can help ensure that we continue to offer services for another year.

There are monthly In Kind forms that your child’s teacher and/or any staff member may have you to sign each month for documentation of your In Kind services. Every time you volunteer or donate something to the classroom or center, it will be documented on your child’s monthly In Kind form. At the end of each month, your volunteer hours and any donations costs are totaled. The total amount will then be the amount of your In Kind you and your child earned for the month.

Welcome Ms. Rose

Hi!, I am Ms. Rose the new Office Associate at Mounds Early Learning Center. I am looking forward to working with everyone at the learning center and getting to know everyone.

Mounds Early Learning Center Staff

Site Supervisor: Ms. Lonnie

Assistant Site Supervisor/Parent Coordinator: Ms. Cindy

Office Associate Ms. Rose

Education Staff: Ms. Katina, Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Glenda, and Ms. Ronique, Ms. Paulette, Ms. Jacy,

Ms. Crystal, Ms. Keisha

Nutrition: Ms. Jameca

Custodian: Ms. Sara and Mr. Jamie
The Child Passenger Protection Act requires that all children under age 8 be properly secured in an appropriate child safety restraint system. This includes the use of booster seats, which must only be used with a lap/shoulder safety belt. If the back seat of the vehicle is not equipped with lap/shoulder type safety belts, a child weighing more than 40 pounds may be transported in the back seat without a booster seat, secured with a lap belt only.

**Child Safety Seat Guidelines**

Always read and follow the child safety seat and vehicle manufacturer’s instructions for installation and height/weight guidelines.

**Newborn-12 months**

Children under age 1 and weighing less than 20 pounds should always ride in a rear-facing infant seat or a convertible seat used rear-facing.

- Never install a rear-facing safety seat in front of an active airbag.
- Rear-facing safety seats should recline 30-45 degrees.
- The child’s head must be at least 1 inch below the top of the safety seat when rear-facing.
- Use the harness straps/slots at or below shoulder level when rear-facing.
- Harness straps must be snug on the child; the harness clip should be at armpit level.

**Ages 1-4**

Children should remain in a rear-facing safety seat until age 2, or until they are at the upper height or weight limit of the seat. When a child out-grows a rear-facing safety seat, he or she may transition to a forward-facing seat with a harness system.

- Use the internal harness system until the upper height or weight limit is reached.
- Use harness straps/slots at or above shoulder level when forward-facing.
- Harness straps must be snug on the child; the harness clip should be at armpit level.
- The top of the child’s ears should not be above the top of the car seat when forward-facing.

**Ages 4-8**

Children should be secured in a forward-facing safety seat with an internal harness system until they reach the upper height or weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer. When a child out-grows the forward-facing seat, he or she may transition to a belt-positioning booster seat.

- Booster seats must be used with the vehicle’s lap and shoulder belt, never just a lap belt.
- The lap belt should lie low across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should rest snugly across the shoulder and chest, not across the neck or face.
- The top of the child’s ears should not be above the top of the back of a booster seat with a back.
- If using a backless booster seat, the vehicle’s head restraint must be positioned properly.
- Secure the booster seat with the vehicle’s seat belt when not in use.

**Child Passenger Safety Tips**

- Keep children in rear-facing safety seats as long as possible.
- Keep children in the back seat at least through age 12.
- Never place a rear-facing safety seat in front of an active airbag.
- A used safety seat may not be safe unless you know the history of the seat and all labels, parts and instructions are present.
- Always register your safety seat with the manufacturer so you can be notified of recalls.
- Do not use a safety seat that is more than six years old or past the expiration date stamped on the seat.
- Non-regulated products such as toys attached to the safety seat, mirrors, window shades and belt tightening tools are not recommended unless the safety seat manufacturer allows their use.
- All objects in the vehicle should be stowed in the trunk or tied down, as they can become projectiles if a crash or sudden stop occurs.