



DCPS HEAD START NEWSLETTER V4.0

Updates for PreK Classrooms at CW Harris, Hendley, Kimball, Savoy, Stanton, and M.L King

In This Issue

- Family Info Sessions
- Performance Standard of the Week
- Staffing
- ASQ
- Head Start Liaisons

Staffing

Diane Woods is the Family Service Specialist for Savoy Elementary. She was previously an ERSEA Specialist. She has BA in Human Ecology and Business Administration M.A in Strategic Communications and Public Relations and has been with DCPS for 11 years. We are thrilled to have a Head Start veteran back on our team!



Dyana Smith is the new Head Start Manager of Instruction/Disabilities. Dyana began her career in early childhood as a classroom teacher, teaching both Pre-K and Kindergarten. After a few years in the classroom, she transitioned to a position as an Early Head Start Home Visitor in Northern Virginia. Dyana remained with Head Start in a number of roles including the Manager of Education and Disabilities for both the Early Head Start and Head Start programs. Dyana joined the DCPS Head Start School Wide Model as an Early Childhood Instructional Specialist in 2017.



Health & Safety

In order to support our Head Start (HS) classrooms, we will begin tracking HS ECE related health and safety issues within [QuickBase](#). Your school's operational procedures for reporting issues remain the same, i.e., teachers/staff's first line of reporting is to the custodial staff and/or office staff. However, this additional layer of reporting will allow the Head Start Central Services team to provide support as well as report on the health and safety of HS classrooms and playgrounds. Teachers and staff should report any issue or condition which could cause harm or affect the health and/or safety of themselves or students. For example, if the classroom sink is not working or there is a broken piece of equipment on the playground.

Family Info Sessions to Learn about Head Start

Reminder, Central Services and Family Services staff are contacting many of your PreK families to learn if they are eligible for Head Start. It's confusing though—if a family is already in your PreK program why do they ALSO need to tell us about their income (or TANF status)? We are having three, 30m webinars to welcome your families to Head Start, explain the benefits of the program and help them understand why we need their information. We will send you a flyer to share with your families and we will email them. Below are the dates/times of these info sessions—**please encourage your families to attend!**

Wednesday 10/27 9am—9:30am
 Wednesday 10/27 5pm—5:30

Performance Standard of the Week

1302.13 Recruitment of children. In order to reach those most in need of services, a program must develop and implement a recruitment process designed to actively enroll families with eligible children within the recruitment area of program services and assist them in applying for admission to the program. A program must include specific efforts to actively locate and recruit children with disabilities and other vulnerable children including homeless children and children in foster care.

Head Start Liaisons

Similar to our former PreK Grade Level Chair roles, we are going to introduce Head Start Liaison positions at each school. We will be working with Principals to nominate PreK teachers willing to serve in this role. An administrative stipend will be available and liaisons will serve as a single point of contact for the Central Services Head Start teams, advise on program procedures, and serve as a role model for meeting Performance Standards. Please speak with your Principal if you are interested!

November 16, 2021 | 3:00 pm–4:00 pm ET Using the 5Rs to Promote Self-regulation Skills in Young Children

The first five years of life are foundational in building the emotional and behavioral self-regulation skills that every child needs. Join this webinar to discuss how early learning leaders can provide education staff with the resources and guidance necessary to foster these skills in children. Explore the strategic use of data to inform and focus professional development to maximize impact and improve outcomes for children. Register at

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?>