



ED Corner

Updates from Daryl Lucke, Executive Director

Dear Staff,

As we embrace the beauty of fall, I want to take a moment to celebrate the amazing activities that are highlighted in your calendars and happening across our centers. Specifically, I want to give a shout out to our Howe KC staff whose dedication to working as a close knit team has helped to overcome center challenges and provide an engaging atmosphere for the kindergarteners. The dedication and hard work exhibited at all of our centers continue to make a profound impact on the children and families we serve.

I encourage you to take some time to read the article in this newsletter on Impulsivity in Kids. It offers valuable insights into understanding and managing impulsive behaviors, which can be beneficial in our daily interactions with the children we serve.

We have a couple of positions that are open and we know that referrals from staff can result in new hires who have a strong passion for working with kids, so please help to spread the word.

Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm so far this year. Let's keep the momentum going as we celebrate this vibrant season!

Daryl

Executive Director



October Birthdays

Please wish Happy Birthday to

Georgia Muksuris - 10/27

Welcome New Staff

Join us in welcoming Mike Pugh to the MLEDP team. He will be working at the Jefferson Center. Mike has a BS in Sociology with a minor in Educational Studies. Mike has experience working with Kindergarteners, Third graders and Sixth graders and will be enrolling in a Master's program in Education. He spent his career so far in the United States Air Force and is eager to transition to a teaching role. Welcome, Mike!! We are happy to have you!



Partnership with Watson Institute

We are happy to continue our partnership with Watson Institute this year. All 3 KC programs will take part in a yearlong study through Watson for the Birmingham Grant/Grabel Foundation focused on social and emotional learning (SEL) approaches. Lisa Plastino, who presented a training and worked with us last year will be consulting. In addition, all centers will have access to view PowerPoint presentations (10-15 minutes each) on the SEL topic. You will be receiving more information when they are available. We expect this to be a valuable resource to work with the kindergarteners and all the children.



Annual Thank You Dinner

Each year, the board and staff come together for an Annual Dinner to thank you for all your hard work. This year, the event will once again be held at Gianna Via's in Caste Village. Save the date for December 4, 2024. More details to come!

October Pay Periods

10/15 pay is for hours worked 9/16-9/29

10/31 pay is for hours worked 9/30-10/13



Open Positions

AM/PM Teacher

11-6:30 teacher

If you know of anyone interested, you can earn a recruitment bonus! \$150 when we hire someone you refer with an additional \$150 after they complete their 90 day probationary period.

Thanks for your help!



Paid Holidays

All staff who have been employed at least 90 days will be paid their site time hours for the following upcoming holidays:

Thanksgiving Day and the Day after Thanksgiving (MLEDP is closed on the 27th and staff can take leave time or leave without pay)

Christmas day through New Years Day (MLEDP is closed on 12/23 and 12/24 and staff can take leave time or leave without pay)



Behavior Corner

Impulsivity in Kids

What is life like for impulsive kids? It's like their brain is constantly changing channels without their permission.

Managing impulsive behavior in children isn't about squashing their spirit or turning them into little robots. It's more like channeling a wild river into a productive stream.

How to help?...Establishing clear rules and consistent consequences is key. It's like creating a roadmap for behavior. When kids know what's expected and what will happen if they veer off course, it helps them navigate their impulses better.

Positive reinforcement is your secret weapon. Catch them being good! When you notice a child resisting an impulse or showing self-control, shower them with praise. It's like watering the flowers you want to grow in your behavioral garden.

Teaching self-regulation skills is crucial. This might involve techniques like deep breathing, counting to ten, or using "pause and think" moments. It's like giving a child a toolbox to manage their impulses.

Creating a structured environment can work wonders. Routines and predictability can help impulsive children feel more secure and in control. It's like providing a steady rhythm to dance to, rather than asking them to freestyle in chaos.

Collaboration with parents and teachers is essential. When everyone's on the same page, it creates a consistent support system for the child. It's like having a team of coaches all working towards the same goal.

And here's a final thought to keep you going: impulsivity in children isn't just a challenge; it's often paired with creativity, enthusiasm, and a zest for life. With the right guidance, these impulsive tendencies can be channeled into positive traits that will serve children well into adulthood.

Excerpted from: <https://neurolaunch.com/impulsive-behavior-in-children/>



Center Spotlight

Howe Kindergarten

Kudos to the Howe Kindergarten Care team for exemplifying their center theme "Teamwork makes the Dream Work" through their collaborative efforts this school year! Your commitment to establishing a consistent schedule, planning engaging activities, and navigating major challenges together showcases true dedication and teamwork. The impressive accomplishments you've achieved already reflect your ability to support one another and create a cohesive unit. Thank you for your hard work and for making a positive impact on the kindergarten experience! The Howe Kindergarten team is led by Laura Flaus and includes Christie Keane, Amy Simon, Georgia Muksuris and Emmeline Cheney.

PINS Night Out

For those who RSVP'd for the night out at PINS Mechanical next **Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 7 pm.**, here are some additional details

Parking: There is metered street parking available on most streets around Southside works. IF you would rather park in a garage the Ingot parking garage is directly across the street from Pins Mechanical. You have to pay for parking through their app.

Entrance: You will need to have a valid ID to enter. Anyone under the age of 21 Must be accompanied by an adult at all times in the facility. Any minors must depart by 9pm.

Our location is the Hookie Hangout on the second floor. There are stairs when you first enter the space that will lead to our location. When you arrive you will receive a black wristband noting that you are with the MLEDP Night Out Event.

Food/Drink: We will be ordering pizza from Slice on Broadway. Both pepperoni and cheese pizza will be available. All staff and family are welcome to enjoy the food and refillable soft drinks on MLEDP's tab. All staff members will receive a drink ticket for one alcoholic drink provided by MLEDP. Staff will be responsible for the cost of any additional alcoholic drinks. PINS will use the black wristband to note who is with our group for payment purposes.

Games: We are located in the Hookie Hangout which gives us reserved use of this games. There are other free games such as bocce, giant jenga, gaming systems, pong etc that are available if not reserved by another group. There are also pinball machines and video game throughout the building.