



# NEWSLETTER

Parents as Teachers    Early Head Start    Head Start



## October Important Dates



4		Picture Day
5	9:30- 10:30 am	Playgroup at Hays Public Library
5	10:00- 11:00 am	Playgroup at Russell Library
12	10:00-11:00 am	La Leche at Cross Point Church
14	8:15-9:15 am	Parent Committee at ECC
21	9:00 - 10:00 am	Playgroup at LaCrosse Barnard Library

### Severe Weather Reminder

If USD 489—Hays cancels school; all Early Childhood Connections classrooms, offices, meetings, home visits, and playgroups will be cancelled as well.

If any of the districts listed below cancel school; all home visits, classrooms, and playgroups held *within those districts* will be cancelled.

- USD 407-Russell
- USD 395-LaCrosse
- USD 388-Ellis
- USD 432-Victoria,
- USD 270-Plainville
- USD 271-Stockton

If roads are snow-covered or icy, please allow your Parent Educator, Teacher, or your Family Worker a few extra minutes to arrive for your home visit, due to the increased travel time. Please keep your porch & walk-way as clear as possible by removing snow and/or sprinkling salt to remove the ice. If your home visits are held after dark please remember to turn on your porch light.

### October 20th and 25th will be Parent Teacher Conferences

Parents please watch for your classroom newsletters for exact times.

Save the date!



Daddy and Me  
November 12, 2022  
9:30 am-11:00 am

Get all the information on activities and upcoming events!!

Follow us on Facebook.com

Early Childhood Connections



**MEET YOUR POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR.**  
A BIG THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING PARENTS FOR BEING ELECTED!

Mrs. Beagley

Lexi Reinhardt (Representative)  
Kaleigh Rushing (Alternate)

Mrs. Beougher

Lindsay Engling (Representative)

Mrs. Burton

Jenny Shen (Representative)  
Dawn Carter (Alternate)

Mrs. Gaschler

Krista Fabricius (Representative)  
Tara LaBarge (Alternate)

Mrs. Hertel

Emori Dodson (Representative)  
Kennedy Sanchez (Alternate)

Mrs. Staab

Meagan Oliver (Representative)  
Joseph Jackson (Alternate)

Mrs. Stremel

Katie Kimzey (Representative)  
ALTERNATE NEEDED

Mrs. Vanek –

Krystan Stinemetz (Representative)  
ALTERNATE NEEDED

Chidcare

Jamie Graham (Representative)  
Cally Hines (Alternate)

Center-based

Sofia Edmonds (Representative)  
Jenna Smith (Representative)

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO BE REPRESENTED ON POLICY COUNCIL IN THE FOLLOWING CLASSROOMS AND PROGRAM OPTIONS:

Mrs. Fross - 1 REPRESENTATIVE & 1 ALTERNATE

Mrs. Schmidtberger – 1 REPRESENTATIVE & 1 ALTERNATE

0-3 Home Base- 2 REPRESENTATIVES & 2 ALTERNATES

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A SMALL COMMITMENT, BUT A HUGE CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR SCHOOL FAMILY BY SERVING ON POLICY COUNCIL! REACH OUT TO YOUR FAMILY ADVOCATE OR PARENT EDUCATOR TO GET SIGNED UP!

# Parent – Teacher Conferences and Education Home Visits

## **October 20th and 25th**

Parents please watch for your classroom newsletters for exact times.

The positive connection between home and school is a crucial part to a child's well-being and success in a school environment. Because we value this connection, we have scheduled four specific times throughout the school year to provide an opportunity for all parents/guardians to meet and discuss their child's progress with the classroom teacher. Families and teachers both share what they see as the child's strengths, interests, progress, and areas to strengthen. Together, we celebrate progress and strengths, while we work together on a plan to support areas that could use targeted strengthening.

Be watching your child's weekly classroom newsletter for specific dates and times!

Parent-Teacher Conferences can be a fascinating look at your child's growth through the eyes of another caring adult --- your child's teacher! Below are some suggestions to help you prepare and participate in a successful parent – teacher conference!!!

*Before these meetings*, you may want to think about....

What progress or changes have I seen in my child?

What other changes or growth would I like to see for my child?

Are there any events or circumstances in my child's life that the school should be aware of? (i.e.; new siblings, new people in our home, a possible move for our family...)

*During these meetings*, you may want to ask....

What progress has my child made at school?

What do you see as my child's strengths?

What specific areas would you like to see more growth in?

How do you plan to meet my child's goals at school?

How can I help my child with these goals at home?

*After any of these meetings*, be sure to contact your child's teacher if new questions, Celebrations, or concerns arise. When parents and teachers work together as a team, it is the children who are the winners!!

# Halloween Health and Safety Tips

**S**

Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.

**A**

Avoid trick-or-treating alone, Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

**F**

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

**E**

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.

**H**

Hold flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see others and others see you. Always WALK and don't run from house to house.

**A**

Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

**L**

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.

**L**

Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

**O**

Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

**W**

Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.

**E**

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.

**E**

Never accept rides from strangers.

**N**

Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.

**For more information about these tips, visit: [www.cdc.gov/family/halloween](http://www.cdc.gov/family/halloween)**

Office of Women 's Health • 770-488-87 90 (phone) • [owh@cdc.gov](mailto:owh@cdc.gov) (e-mail)

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CS236181A



USD 489 EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS

# **PARENT COMMITTEE**

Next Meeting

**Friday, OCTOBER 14TH**

**8:15 to 9:15 a.m.**

MEET US IN THE BUILDING 1 ACTIVITY ROOM FOR  
COFFEE, DONUTS & CONVERSATION

## **PARENTS WE NEED AND WANT YOUR INPUT!!**

Be as involved as **MUCH**, or as **LITTLE**, as works for your family.  
**NO PRESSURE.** A **SMALL** commitment with a **BIG** impact.

- Help Plan School Spirit Days!
- Engage with other family members!
  - Upcoming Program Events!
- Learn what's happening at School!
  - Win door prizes!

**For more information contact  
Karla or Brenda at 785-623-2430.**

Early Childhood  
*Connections*  
"Live the Possibilities"





**Kansas Children's Service League**  
Stronger families start here.

*Caring for someone's child and need guidance? KCSL can help!*



# Kinship Navigator

helping grandparents, relatives or family friends raising children

## WHAT IS KINSHIP CARE?

Kinship care refers to a temporary or permanent arrangement in which a grandparent or relative is responsible for the full-time care of a child.

## WHAT IS KINSHIP NAVIGATOR?

Kansas Children's Service League's (KCSL) Kinship Navigator is designed to connect you with services and benefits needed to care for the children in your home and help overcome potential issues and barriers when parenting the second time around.

## HOW DO I RECEIVE KINSHIP NAVIGATOR SERVICES?

KCSL's Kinship Navigator is offered to grandparents, relatives or family friends in the Wichita area who are raising children and need guidance in parenting. **All services are FREE and confidential.**

## Common Kinship Caregiver Concerns

- Loss of freedom
- Change in lifestyle
- Increased financial obligations
- Exhaustion & health problems
- Frustration with social services & the courts
- Child-rearing challenges
- Difficulty finding childcare & professional help
- Anger towards child's parents
- Feelings of guilt
- Legal issues

*For more information, call KCSL at 316-942-4261.*



kcsl.org |    

## eat more orange vegetables

carrots, pumpkin,  
sweet potatoes and winter squash



### sweet potatoes

*Sweet potatoes have lots of vitamin A.*

#### **Bake a sweet potato and top with:**

- Chopped ham and cooked broccoli.
- Cooked broccoli and carrots, and shredded cheddar cheese.
- Cooked turkey or chicken chunks.
- Applesauce and dash of cinnamon.

### carrots

#### **Add shredded carrots to:**

- Lettuce salads
- Breads and muffins
- Soups
- Meatballs and meatloaf
- Sandwiches
- Tacos

### Friendly Reminders:

- Please do not park against the curb that is painted Blue on the west side of the School. This area is reserved for the Buses only.
- Please do not leave any children in your vehicle while dropping off or picking up your child.
- Sick Child Call Times: AM class, night before if possible.



**Sometimes the  
littlest things take  
up the most room in  
our hearts.**  
Winnie The Pooh

**Please refer to your family  
handbook about limiting the  
spread of illnesses during  
the start of the cold and flu  
season. Thank you!**

