



LCPS Early Childhood Programs Adventures in Preschool Program Highlights

Administration

- **Dr. Artiaga's Retirement:** Dr. Maria Artiaga has announced her retirement and we are going to miss her; this is well deserved! She will be with us until September 30, 2022. THANK YOU Dr. Artiaga for your dedication and leadership in Early Childhood!!!
- **Welcome Vangie Barela!**
- **Preschool Openings:** Families are able to apply for Head Start and/or New Mexico PreK online. Applications are also taken over the phone by early childhood professionals who are able to assist both our English and Spanish-Speaking families. Online applications can be found at [Las Cruces Public Schools Early Childhood Application \(office.com\)](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=n1KDhOC9JEG_I8RjwJDWDXVT-qZgWpCj1-j4zLyotVUOEhCVFhIUVpXNzJNMkJIOTaWjc2MFdMOC4u).
 - English Application:
https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=n1KDhOC9JEG_I8RjwJDWDXVT-qZgWpCj1-j4zLyotVUOEhCVFhIUVpXNzJNMkJIOTaWjc2MFdMOC4u
 - Spanish Application:
https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=n1KDhOC9JEG_I8RjwJDWDXVT-qZgWpCj1-j4zLyotVUREhCRUJRTUIQVE9WVIVRVE5ZQIE0RE5OMi4u

Education

The 2022-2023 SY is off to a great start for our Early Childhood Programs! Our students are learning and growing with the guidance and the support of classroom staff. Our programs continue implementing the following curriculums: Three Cheers for PreK, Waterford, Heggerty, Kimochis, Kindermusik, and Learning Without Tears. ECOT assessments were started and completed by the end of August for most children. ECOT assessment will be done for any new students starting after the first day of enrollment. The summary results were shared with families during Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Kudos to all Early Childhood Teachers for their hard work and dedication in getting their classrooms ready for our kiddos! Here are a few of the displays of our EC classrooms. 😊

Practiced-Based Coaching



Practiced-Based
Coaching

We are proud to announce that all preschool teachers are participating in Practice Based Coaching (PBC). PBC is a cyclical process for supporting teachers' implementation of evidence-based teaching practices in the areas of literacy, social emotional learning, and multi-lingual WIDA principles that lead to positive learning outcomes for our district's youngest children. Teachers and coaches collaborate in developing short-term goals & action planning, focused observations, reflection, and feedback throughout the instructional year. Four Early Childhood Instructional Coaches (ECICs) deliver coaching in collaboration with Central Region Educational Cooperative (CREC). To access the Menu of Practices implemented, visit [Menu of Practices.pdf: NM Preschool Teacher Support \(instructure.com\)](#).

Parent, Family & Community Engagement

- **Enrichment Opportunities:** We strive to provide families with information to various community events to promote Parent, Family and Community Engagement.
- **Kindermusik Socialization:** Join Us for a "Marvelous Me" Family Social. We will sing songs, dance, create a homemade musical instrument, target early literacy skills, and learn about new cultures! When: Thurs. Sept. 15 @ 5:30-6:45 pm.
Zoom Link: <https://lcpss.zoom.us/j/85351905965?pwd=Y21vRUExN1BnVE5BellUMmtqRkdZZz09>.
Meeting ID: 853 5190 5965 Passcode: 596714
- **Pumpkin Palooza:** The City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department presents the fourth annual "Pumpkin Palooza" fall event from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022, at Frank O'Brien Papen Community Center and Mesilla Park, 304 W. Bell Ave. LCPS Early Childhood Programs will have a booth come out and join us.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?event_id=17397
- **Family Link:** <https://forms.office.com/r/7p9DEnPYwu>
 - Please click the link for ANY family who may need help for ANY reason.
 - Typical Referrals: attendance, homeless, medical assistance, access to resources, food, clothing, mental health, parenting, social services, etc.

Health, Safety & Nutrition

Tips to Help Children Maintain a Healthy Weight: Parents, guardians, and teachers can help children maintain a healthy weight by helping them develop healthy eating habits and limiting calorie-rich temptations. You also want to help children be physically active, have reduced screen time, and get adequate sleep.

Help children stay active:

In addition to being actively involved with your children and having fun, regular physical activity has [many health benefits](#), including:

- Strengthening bones.
- Decreasing blood pressure.
- Reducing stress and anxiety.
- Increasing self-esteem.
- Helping with weight management.



Children ages 3 through 5 years should be active throughout the day. Children and adolescents ages 6 through 17 years should be physically active at least 60 minutes each day. Include aerobic activity, which is anything that makes their hearts beat faster. Also include bone-strengthening activities such as running or jumping and muscle-strengthening activities such as climbing or push-ups. [See details](#).

[Tips to Help Children Maintain a Healthy Weight \(cdc.gov\)](#)

Tips to Help Your Picky Eater: Children may not like every food you give them on the first try. Give them a chance to try foods again and again, even if they don't like them at first. Children may need to try some foods many times before they like them.



- Try eating the food first to show them you like it. Then, let them try it.
- Give them a choice of different foods to try. Let them decide which one to try today.
- Serve new foods with foods you know they like.
- Wait a couple of days before offering the food again. It can take more than 10 times before your child likes it.

[Tips to Help Your Picky Eater | DNPAO | CDC](#)

TEACHING EMOTIONAL LITERACY & REGULATION

EDITION 3

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT



PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Identify Children's Emotions

Preschoolers need exposure to *feeling* words that go beyond the basics of *happy, sad, mad*. Learning words for more complex and subtle feelings helps children better understand emotions and increases their awareness of self and others.

Teaching Practices

- ✓ Stay close and respond quickly to children's emotional states.
- ✓ Label a wide variety of emotions in children, yourself, others, and in books.
- ✓ Encourage children to describe what they are feeling and what others might be feeling.
- ✓ Identify your own emotions using a variety of complex emotion words.

Practice Empathy

Acknowledging and respecting all emotions communicates to children that feelings are not good or bad. Sometimes, positive acknowledgment is all a child needs to feel calm again. Validate what a child is experiencing by encouraging preschoolers to articulate their feelings and listen attentively.

Teaching Practices

- ✓ Acknowledge and identify how a child seems to be feeling as a first response to behavior.
- ✓ Tell stories of your own experiences and feelings that relate to the children's experiences.
- ✓ Ask open-ended questions to help children express their feelings more clearly.
- ✓ Role play familiar scenarios with children or puppets to help them think about why they and others might have certain feelings about the scenarios.

Teach Regulation Strategies

Preschoolers are ready to learn more complex strategies and use them with more independence. Providing subtle reminders and using props will increase their ability to self-regulate.

Teaching Practices

- ✓ Model and practice coping strategies: deep breaths, count to 10, draw a picture, find a safe and quiet space, go for a jog outside, blow bubbles.
- ✓ When you notice strong emotions, encourage the child to choose a strategy.
- ✓ With children or puppets, role play scenarios and safe ways to express and act on emotions.
- ✓ Use visuals and props to support self-regulation strategies.

Circle Time Magazine, Edition 3
Teaching Emotional Literacy and
Regulation, 2018.

Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance (ERSEA)					
Number of Children Enrolled (Accepted) by Program					
Preschool Programs	Head Start	Head Start	Title I	Title I	NM PreK
Age based on entry into program	3 year -olds	4 year-olds	3 year -olds	4 year-olds	4 year-olds
Elementary School Sites					
Alameda					17
B. T. Washington	45(2)	58 (4)	0	0	61
Cesar Chavez	37 (3)	51 (2)	0	1	22
Conlee	14 (2)	0	0	0	0
Desert Hills	0	0	0	0	17
Doña Ana	0	18	0	0	18
East Picacho	0	0	0	0	0
Hermosa Heights	4 (2)	17 (2)	0	0	12
Hillrise	0	0	0	0	15
Loma Heights	1 (1)	13 (1)	0	0	0
MacArthur	9	9	0	0	0
Mesilla	4	12	0	0	17
Mesilla Park	12	5	0	0	0
Monte Vista	0	0	0	0	0
Sonoma	0	0	0	0	0
Tombaugh	4	11 (1)	0	0	18
University Hills	6	21(3)	0	0	0
Valley View	11	19	0	0	17
White Sands	0	0	0	0	7
Total Enrolled	147	234	0	0	221
Total Accepted	10	13	0	1	0

Application and Status			
	Head Start 3 year olds	Head Start 4 year olds	NM PreK 4 year olds
Pending Applications			
Pending or Incomplete	92	44	0
Not Applicable	1	0	34
Total	93	44	34
Reason Withdrawn from Program			
Covid-19	0	0	3
No Transportation	0	1	4

Day Care	0	0	5
Pre-K Program	0	0	0
Conflict with Schedules	0	0	0
Moved Out of Town	0	2	5
Parent Request	4	1	0
Unable to Contact	0	0	9
Absent	0	0	1
Total	4	4	
Waitlist by Home School			
Alameda	0	0	1
Booker T. Washington	3	1	0
Cesar Chavez	0	1	0
Conlee	1	0	0
Desert Hills	0	0	16
Doña Ana	0	2	2
East Picacho	0	0	0
Hermosa Heights	1	1	0
Hillrise	0	0	1
Loma Heights	1	1	0
MacArthur	1	3	0
Mesilla	0	0	0
Mesilla Park	1	1	0
Monte Vista	0	0	0
Sonoma	0	0	0
Tombaugh	0	0	6
University Hills	1	0	0
Valley View	2	2	0
White Sands	0	0	4
Total	11	12	30
Over Income			
Under 30% of Poverty Income	0	0	
Over 30% of Poverty Income	15	22	
Total	15	22	
Total Applications	280	330	

Early Childhood Monthly Attendance Average

**Note: Due to factors related to COVID-19, attendance averages may vary.*

BTW 3A	79%
BTW 3B	73 %
BTW 3C	77 %
BTW 4A	72%
BTW 4B	84 %
BTW 4C	91 %
BTW 4D	87 %
CC 3A	86 %
CC 3B	76 %
CC 4A	83 %
CC 4B	82 %
CC 4C	88 %
CC 4D	84 %
CC 4E	81 %
Conlee	86 %
Doña Ana	77 %
Hermosa Heights	81 %
Jornada	83 %
Loma Heights	78 %
MacArthur	73 %
Mesilla	71 %
Mesilla Park	86 %
Tombaugh	87 %
University Hills 3/4	88 %
University Hills 4	84 %
Valley View ¾	79 %
Valley View 4	82 %

Head Start Nutrition Update: Meals and Snacks

Breakfast	Lunch	Snack
5,330	5,326	5,288

Head Start Fiscal Update: Financial Report

Budget	Function	Expense	Monthly Expenditures
Teacher Classroom Supplies	1000	Professional Development Supplies and Materials	\$3,300 \$9,447
Parent Engagement Assistants & Specialists	2100	Supplies and Materials	\$12,466
Office & Administration	2200	Supplies and Materials	\$6,540
Facilities & Maintenance	2600	Gas Credit Card	\$130
			\$31,883

Head Start Program Instructions and Memoranda

**The items listed below are the most recently posted and distributed to Head Start grantees.*

Program Instructions:

FY 2022 Head Start Funding Increase

Log Number: ACF-PI-HS-22-02 | **Issuance Date:** 04/14/2022

Information Memoranda:

Office of Head Start Guidance for Use of Funds Appropriated in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2); Accompaniment to ACF-IOAS-DCL-22-01
ACF-IM-HS-22-05

[Office of Head Start Guidance for Use of Funds Appropriated in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 \(ARP\) \(Pub. L. 117-2\); Accompaniment to ACF-IOAS-DCL-22-01 | ECLKC \(hhs.gov\)](#)

LCPS Early Childhood Leadership Team!

