

Kiddie Prep School

TEAM NEWS

**August
2009**

We had a good visit with Becky Satterfield, Paths to Quality. She enjoyed the classrooms and everywhere she visited. There is some information we would like to share. I have listed the criteria and strategies for improvement below:

Criteria: Displays of children's art are available at children's eye level and show that most art work is exploratory and unique to each child. Review: More displays of children's work. Items should be at child's eye level. Items can be on walls, back of shelves, homemade books, etc. It is understood that we are somewhat limited on space. It is also understood that we have creative teachers that can do anything they put their mind to. Some ideas are to use magnets (NO TAPE) on the white boards located on your toy chests, even the extra ones in the quad rooms and make "memory books" to keep in the reading areas

Criteria: The teacher supports children's development by gathering information through child observations that is used to guide lesson planning. Lesson plans need to indicate/labeled how teachers' observations guide lessons/activities. "Why" plans were created for children. This goes back to the foundations training you have experienced. We know all classrooms are completing their observations weekly, but some classrooms print this info and keep it in a binder for future reference. Please make sure you offer any of this info to the inspectors as they come.

Criteria: Music and Movement: Materials might include audio equipment, variety of tapes/CDs, and music boxes, musical toys, instruments, dance props such as scarves/streamers Didn't observe music and movement items in all reviewed classrooms. Children do have access to books on tape, cd player is in room and a computer. Some cabinets weren't labeled - items may be in these cabinets. She would like to see a labeling system outside the cabinet doors showing exactly what is inside without having to open them. Inspectors will not open the doors to see what's inside. I went around after she made this review and found the music tubs in the rooms as needed but I had to ask for them and look in the cabinets.

Criteria: Nature and Science: Collections of natural items (shells, rocks, blowers, bugs), living plants, pets to care for, science games, toys, magnets, magnifying glasses, cooking opportunities. Review: Rooms inspected need added science times for children to have access to during the day. Children were engaged in sensory items—shaving cream & water tub. She wants us to make sure there is a variety of things (at least 3) for the children to choose from when playing in each center area. Every classroom has a science tub with several different things. Please be sure this is another tub that is offered when an inspector is here.

Melanie and Deb came to a conclusion after the review was complete. When an inspector reviews a facility, they don't always review every classroom. They assume that each room is alike. They usually have a checklist of what they are looking for when in a room. We, as the provider, have a limited window of opportunity to show them *everything* they want to see (sometimes 10 minutes!). Make sure you have your classroom set up everyday. Be proactive when an inspector is here. Urge the children to get into the cabinets so the inspector sees them. Offer help with any questions they might have and interact with the children. Melanie has included a copy of the "Classroom Interest Centers" that Becky gave her while here on her visit. This is a list that she uses to inspect. This will give you something to work from when updating your room.

August Calendar News

August 12th & 26th - Pay Day!

August 18th - Griselda M. and Alex's last day.

August 21st - Keila, Emi, and Jacob's last day.

August 24th - First day of the Fall Schedule!

August 31st - Birthday Lunches; 1-2:45. Deb S, Jean and Janelle.

AUGUST - Remember to hand in all college registration papers and all TEACH scholarship information by August 21st!

August 2009

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17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

-Bits and Pieces-

- The kitchen will be trying new foods on the menu. Please remember to be encouraging to the children. Encourage them to try their new foods and DO NOT talk bad about the food. It's understandable if you don't like it but try to put a happy face on for the kids.
- Bleach Bottles - Bleach bottles will now stay in the rooms every evening. They will no longer be returned to the kitchen. The opening teacher for the room will be responsible for putting clean bleach water in the bottle daily (state regulation) and the closing teacher for the room will be responsible for dumping any extra out at the end of the day. The ratio will be 1 tsp to one 24 ounce spray bottle of water. The toddler rooms with diapering areas will use 2 tsps to one 24 ounce spray bottle of water as well.
- Water Tubs - Please remember to dump the tub daily!
- Teachers have been noticeably closing down their rooms too early. We have

seen rooms closed down as early as 2:30p. This is not an acceptable practice. Center signs, pictures, toy cabinets, water tubs, paint, etc. should be out in the afternoon. The classroom should not be closed any earlier than 4:30. State requests that things stay open for the children until the last available moment.

- TOURS - We have been getting many requests for tours. PRAISE GOD! Please remember to avoid difficult situations with child discipline if the tours are in your room. Also, parents love having the teachers introduce themselves. One of the things we speak about in our tours is that our teachers are linked to the parents through email and they will be able to communicate to them during naptime. Please make sure to continue to use your KPS email daily!
- Time-off - Because of low ratios we have periodically asked teachers to work short days. We do not foresee this to be a regular practice this fall.

A LOOK AT NEXT MONTH

- September 7th - Labor Day; KPS Closed
- September 9th & 23rd - Pay Day!
- September 14th - Birthday Lunches 1-2:45
- September 22, 23 & 24 - School Pictures
- September ?? - KPS Open House; we are double checking dates with the church.

September 2009

	1	2	3	4
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14	15	16	17	18
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28	29	30		

Affirmation Box

Carrie - Thank you so much for helping me with re-directing a difficult child from my class. It helped him to settle and gave me the 5 minutes I needed to pray.

Darla - The break room looks great.

Darla - Thank you Darla for making the break room so nice.

"Congratulations
Carrie!
You have won the
Team Spirit award
for this month."



Nothing in the Anonymous Bag



Happy Birthday!

August 12, 2002 - Ryan
August 12, 2008 - Kezia
August 15, 2005 - Trisha
August 16, 2006 - Ashley
August 18, 2005 - Donita
August 18, 2008 - Amanda
August 18, 2008 - Katie
August 23, 1999 - Dorothy
August 23, 1999 - Nicole

KPS Anniversaries!

- Denise was awarded her TEACH scholarship for her CDA Assessment.
- Darla was awarded her TEACH scholarship for her Associates classes. She will be taking classes this fall.
- Ryan, Deb S. and Joy are working on their TEACH applications and will be registering soon.
- Katie has applied for a mentoring scholarship from TEACH.
- Susan, Laura, Amy, Nicole, Cheryl and Meg are registered with the appropriate college/universities and will be attending classes this fall.

CDA Updates!