



Child Care Updates

In October, several positive changes in the Child Development and Care (CDC) program will take effect. Family contributions will continue to be waived through September of 2023 thus lowering out-of-pocket costs for families that qualify. Provider subsidy rates and hours of care providers are reimbursed for will increase. For example, billing for 1-30 hours will result in a payment of 30 hours; billing for 31-60 hours will result in a payment of 60 hours; and billing for 61-90 hours will result in a payment of 90 hours. These are positive changes to assist in making care affordable for parents and to better support providers that participate in the subsidy program.

I will provide a status update at the meeting of our child care expansion efforts in the region.

Birth to Three Literacy Essentials

Five Early Childhood Staff are attending a Train the Trainer series for *Essential Instructional Practices in Language and Emergent Literacy: Birth to Three* this month. In collaboration with our U.P. Literacy Hub, Early Childhood Support Network, Great Start Collaboratives, and higher education institutes we will begin developing a training plan for our region. The plan will be developed for multiple settings including home visiting, early intervention, child care, parent education programs, early childhood classroom settings, and preservice teacher classroom settings.

Staffing Update

- Heather Haskins is transitioning from her Early On Service Coordinator Specialist role to the Early Childhood Consultant role formally held by Cara LaFaver.
- Ashley Allison is transitioning from her Parent Educator role to the Early On Service Coordinator Specialist position that Heather Haskins is vacating.
- The Parent Educator position has been posted.
- Madison Bunker was hired as the Lead Teacher in our tuition-based preschool classroom.
- We conducted interviews earlier this week for a Site Supervisor. The applicants/interest on the assistant positions have been very low. We continue to recruit for assistants.

Office Space

With the expansion in Early Childhood, we are working to modify the contract with Lake Superior State University to acquire additional office space on campus. Office space in the lower level of Considine Hall has been made available and we are working through the logistical details.

Family Engagement



**JOIN OUR VIRTUAL
PLAYGROUP ON
OCTOBER 20ST @ 4:30**

Topic: Halloween
Activity: Pumpkin Panting

Kit provided includes story and activity.
Contact us on Facebook for more
information or questions.
Playgroup runs about 30-45 minutes.

Register before September 13th:
<https://forms.gle/bRE76EqWxunzD2rf6>

The playgroup and associated materials are provided by the EUPISD and
funded with grants from the Michigan Department of Education

The poster features a central yellow banner with the event title and date. Below this is a wooden-textured banner with the topic and activity. A blue box contains details about the kit and duration. A registration link is provided below. The bottom of the poster has a green banner with funding information. The poster is decorated with various Halloween-themed icons: a smiling pumpkin, a bowl of fruit, a white pumpkin, a basket of vegetables, a jack-o'-lantern, a jack-o'-lantern in a cupcake, a star, and a 'Talk Read Sing' logo.

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