



The Family Partnership Group *at the* Argonne Child Development Center



ACDC Family Partnership Group Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 12:00pm 951 – School Age Room

1. Recent Activities

- a. January Activity Calendar – Calendar was reviewed.
- b. Winter Celebration – Rachel said that her husband came with the baby for a little bit and it seemed like a nice activity for families. Kendra said that she thought it was a neat activity. She did find it hard to get her toddler through the food line without her husband and find a place to sit with the tables being so close together. Gayle said she plans on asking for the tables to be more spread out next year and that she is always available to watch kids while parents get their plates if they are flying solo. There are no high chairs in 240 and that is where we are required to have the center events. Gayle will inquire about obtaining a few high chairs (like the café has) and also checking into the diaper changing station in the bathrooms again that Jessica had suggested after last year's event.
- c. Open Houses/Preview
 - i. Preschool & KPrep Preview was January 16. This was an opportunity for Twos Families to visit Preschool and Preschool Families to visit Kindergarten Prep. We also had a Kindergarten Round Up session for Fall 2019.
 - ii. Toddler/Two Preview will be February 6 rescheduled from January 30. This will be an opportunity for Infant Families to view Toddlers and Toddler Families to view Twos.

2. Upcoming Activities

- a. February Activity Calendar – Gayle reviewed the calendar.
- b. Valentines Day February 14 – Class lists for valentines (if you want to participate) will be in the email update on February 8. Please do not send candy or other food items due to the amount of allergies we have in the center and choking hazards of candy.
- c. Young Artists' Expo March 11-15 – We will be hosting our 14th Young Artists' Expo this week. All children will make an art piece in the center. The pieces will be displayed in building 240 during the week. On Friday we have a "mock" auction where parents can opt to purchase their child's art piece for charity. All funds from the event go to the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children to create Bright Spaces. Bright Spaces are play spaces for children in homeless or domestic abuse shelters and provide children with opportunities for play when their lives are being affected by homelessness and/or abuse.

3. Faculty Appreciation

- a. Faculty Appreciation Month – May
 - i. Theme for the week – We are looking for a theme for the week. Last year was "We are Wild About our Teachers" and the year before was "Teachers are Rock Stars". Please email Gayle any theme ideas you have.
 - ii. Family Contributions – Gayle and Cory worked on the family contribution letter for this year. The family contributions help fund the faculty appreciation week gifts, teacher birthday cards/gifts and holiday luncheon. Once we have a theme chosen, we will put the letter out to all families.

- b. Birthday cards for the month will be completed and sent out to faculty.
 - c. Holiday Luncheon needs to be rescheduled due to the open flame issue we had in December. Gayle is still waiting on the open flame rules to find out if sterno cans are allowed at the center. She will keep everyone updated.
- 4. 2019 Parent Survey – The parent survey closed on Monday. Thank you for participating if you took the survey. The Spencer Family was the winner of the \$50 tuition credit raffle. Gayle will get the results in late March/early April and share them with the center families and then begin talking about the highlights and areas to improve upon in the monthly meeting.
- 5. Treasurer's Report: \$1,480.26
- 6. Abri Credit Union Club Account
 - a. We need to get an EIN number with the IRS. Rachel Heafner (Zeke's mom in Infant B) said she has some experience with getting the EIN number and can assist Gayle in doing this.
 - b. We need to name a President and Secretary in addition the current Treasurer we have (Cory Flowers) in order to maintain our club status. The titles would strictly serve as people who are willing to be in charge of the checking account. Rachel said she is willing to take on a role. I need to know if Cory is willing to continue her role as Treasurer. If so, we would need one more person to take a title on for the sake of the account. If Cory doesn't want to continue, we would need two more people.
 - c. The people volunteering for these roles would need to provide the following information: SS#, Driver's License #, Home address, Phone #'s (house, cell, work), and sign appropriate documents for the account. You do not need to be the Argonne/DOE employee or have a badge as the Woodridge/75th Street location or any other location (Romeoville, Joliet, Plainfield, Frankfort, Fermilab) could be used by you if need be for any Family Partnership Group business.
 - d. We also have to supply the credit union with meeting minutes. Gayle will continue to run the meetings and complete the agendas/minutes to be distributed to all families via the weekly email updates. I would not expect the Secretary to keep the minutes/agendas.
 - e. The goal would be to have this all settled by end of March.
- 7. Other:
 - a. We met in the hallway today to alleviate the fan noise on the call. Kendra said she was able hear Gayle clearly and Rachel who also talked during the meeting. We hope this is a solution for better sound quality for those who need to call into the meeting.
 - b. Anna Elagin (*Kostantin's mother in Kindergarten Prep*) is working on finishing her degree coursework in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (Master of Arts Graduate program at Governors State University). She has one last requirement left and it is to conduct and facilitate a free therapy group. She will be hosting a counseling/therapy/support group for mothers at her residence starting February 10! The purpose of the group is: to provide support, education and free brief therapy to young mothers as well as encourage communication and stress relief in 1-2 hour long sessions once a week for about 6 weeks. Participants will have to be willing to attend the sessions, share personal stories/examples of motherhood, encourage others and provide feedback. The group is going to be audio recorded for training and supervision purposes and a consent for audio recording will need to be signed. The benefits of joining the group are: having a chance to meet with other moms and talk about your struggles or successes, experience a group therapy session, learn something new, receive suggestions from other moms who may be slightly more experienced then you are, doing something positive for yourself, and having the opportunity to relax. Please see the attached flyer for more details including Anna's information in this Friday's email update. You can contact Anna directly for details and to sign up.

8. Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at Noon

Attendance: In Person - Rachel Heafner, Gayle Burgher Phoned In – Kendra Kennedy

Conference Line Option: Please note the new number starting 2/5/19! If it is more convenient for you to call into our meeting, please use the following line: 866-777-5715, PIN #: 77307922#.

Current Room Representatives: We have added the children's names next to parent names to help parents who do not attend a way to identify those parents who are Room Representatives.

Infants – Open Position

Toddlers – Melissa Malaniuk (Madison Tods/Max PS), Kendra Kennedy (Seyla)

Twos – Janet Ford (Mabel Twos/Ruby SA), Yun Ji (Ethan)

Preschool – Bin Liu (Chris), Cory Flowers (Michael), Anne Marie March (Elodie PS/Adele KPrep), Pingping Sun (Liz PS/Sophie KPrep), Jessica McChesney (Isaac)

Kindergarten Prep – Laura Lodewyck (Ella KPrep/Jack SA), Gilles Doumy (Elodie PS/Adele KPrep), Cassie Rubly (Ada), Fanny Simoes (Micah PS/Owen SA), Qi Guo (Emily)