



FOCUS



Leading the Way | Achieving Excellence | Shaping the Future



LCDD preschool staff is busy preparing for another exciting year of preschool. Family registration will be conducted on August 16-17. The first day of preschool for children with IEPs is August 20th. The Peer Buddy Program begins on September 4th. Prior to registration, early childhood staff will participate in two full days of professional development activities.

We are looking forward to seeing all of our preschool friends and to making new friends! The Early Childhood Center DD Preschool is welcoming two new teachers, Mia Dishman and Michaela Johnson. As always, the early childhood program is dedicated to providing a preschool experience that allows every child to maximize his/her full potential. We look forward to working together with families and the community to make the 2018-2019 preschool year the best year yet!

Staff Birthdays

- Cassie Patten, August 3
- Amy Bailey, August 14
- Tanya Aldridge, August 19
- Jamie Ganes, August 27

LCDD at the Lawrence County Fair

Lawrence County DD maintained a presence at this year's Lawrence County Fair. Many staff, students, families and people that receive services from LCDD attended the fair, along with participated in festivities held at the event.

Alex Beckett, Brooke Ridenour and Aaron Ridenour participated in the rabbit showmanship this year. For the show, the ODS students receive their rabbits around the first of June. The 4H member will then take a pen of two rabbits to the fair. The rabbits have to weigh between 4 - 6 lbs each. If their rabbits make weight they will show in the market rabbit class for weight class winner/placement and Grand Champion/ Reserve Champion Rabbit overall.

The judge wants both rabbits to be equal in weight and muscle. He is also looking for clean fur that can be sold as a pelt. Rabbits after the fair will either go back home with the 4H exhibitor or be sold and go to market. The 4H member then shows one rabbit in showmanship. In this case, the judge is watching to see if the exhibitor knows how to properly handle the rabbit, knows the parts of the rabbit and general knowledge about the project.

Lawrence County DD also set up an informational booth at the fair. The booth was manned by several staff members of LCDD throughout the week, giving information about our services and supports we provide, as well and speaking with members of our community!

We would like to congratulate the Lawrence County Agricultural Society on a successful fair this season!





Superintendent's Corner

I would like to welcome back all of our preschool and school age program students and staff. I am very excited about this upcoming program year and know that a lot will be accomplished as we keep moving towards our Mission. I would also like to welcome the new staff members just starting out with us, and feel very fortunate to have such quality staff members, as a whole, here at LCDD.

We will have our all staff in-service on Tuesday, August 14, at the Knights of Columbus in Ironton. The day is packed full of informative topics that will help all of us be better at our jobs. The keynote speaker, Scott Marks, of the Ohio Association of County Boards, will do a presentation on the DD system transformation and explain how we got to where we are and where we are going.

I encourage all staff to bring their families out to our upcoming staff picnic on August 21, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. at Paul Porter Park in Coal Grove. This is a great opportunity to get to know each other better and have fun doing it.

Contact Us!

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Focus - August

Tips for Embracing Positivity in the DD Field

Working with others can sometimes be challenging - but it doesn't have to be! It's important to remember that practicing positivity and optimism is beneficial to health, stress and productivity to not only yourself but to others as well! Promoting positivity on a daily basis will help others start looking on the bright side as well. Keep in mind - positivity is contagious!

Here are some tips to help promote positivity from Total Wellness

- **Show gratitude.** By finding the positive qualities in others, you can help bring out the positive qualities in yourself. Gratitude broadens happiness and can transform your mindset. Spread gratitude by complimenting and spreading acts of kindness
- **Use positive messages.** Positive messages are riddled with optimism. Communicating in a positive and constructive way will change the way your message is received.
- **Be thankful.** We all crave some recognition for our efforts. A simple "thank you" really can go a long way. Make it a habit to genuinely thank someone for their effort at least once a day.
- **Appreciate the little wins.** Anyone can celebrate a major success, but what about the steps along the way? Every goal requires small steps that sometimes get overlooked. Take time to appreciate the little wins and thank those that helped to achieve the big accomplishment.
- **Develop relationships.** Fostering healthy relationships is essential for a positive environment. Find ways to create relatedness among others. For the most positive environment, develop trust and respect for all people that you encounter. And remember - familiarity builds liability, so check-ins or meet-ups can be highly beneficial.
- **Smile.** Even when you don't feel like it. Ever see someone who always keeps a smile on their face versus someone who always has a scowl? The descriptions of those people are most likely vastly different. Smiling tricks your mind into feeling happier - plus a genuine smile can be contagious.

Positivity is powerful because it increases your coping abilities and builds resilience. Spreading positivity will not only strengthen your mindset, but also help build the mindset of those around you.

Calendar of Events

August 7

LCDD Board Meeting

August 16-17

ECC Family Registration

August 13

Teacher Inservice
ODS Back to School Picnic

August 20

First Day of School for IEPs (ECC)

August 14

LCDD Staff Inservice

August 21

LCDD Staff Picnic

August 15

First Day of School

