Early Childhood Special Education

Little things that we want you to know:

Home-School Connections are powerful!
Please continue to share your hopes and dreams for your child. We want to continue to focus on working with you in partnership. We have a variety of staff who can help. We can provide ideas and materials and share strategies. If you need anything to use at home to work on a skill please reach out. We want to see each child succeed in every setting and situation.

You are your child’s first teacher and we want to work with you to help them continue to develop lifelong skills.

January return method:

Affton----In-person
Bayless----In-person
Brentwood----In-person
Hancock----In-person
Jennings----Virtual
Ladue----In-person
Lindbergh----In-person
MRH----Virtual
Normandy----Virtual until the 19th
Parkway----In-person & virtual
Ritenour----Virtual until the 19th
Riverview----Virtual
Webster----In-person
Valley Park----In-person

ECSE Shares:

- Many of us have had to begin new traditions in 2020. Take time to send a loved one a note. Not a card for the holidays or a recap of the year but a simple “thinking of you.” Get your children involved by having them draw a picture that you can include. Don’t forget to have them sign their name!
- This is time that we have spent indoors more so than ever before. What about having a movie night with the family? Make some popcorn and sit down together to watch a favorite movie.
Strategy of the month:
Family meals are a time for connection

Many early childhood centers have “family style dining” where there are community serving dishes and utensils so that students can pass things around and serve themselves. During this time of COVID we have returned to individually wrapped meals but you can pick up this component at home and help the children have a social opportunity with the family.

- You can get a small pitcher and allow the children to pour drinks for everyone, including themselves. (Keep some towels handy to clean any little spills.
- Have your child help prepare family meals, stirring any food that they can help prepare, setting the table. Get them involved! Here is a table setting printable: https://childhood101.com/kids-chores-printable-setting-the-table-placemats/
- Consider playing scattegories with family who may be near or far. Google the general directions but here is a link that you can use for letters to guide playing the game. https://swellgarfo.com/scattegories/

Celebrations and other news

- We have a committee working to develop a curriculum that will address our young learners and break things down to keep focus on developmental milestones. Curriculum is what we teach not how we teach! We are excited at the progress that we are making.
- First semester of most districts is wrapping up at the end of January. Please be on the lookout for progress reports. We should celebrate making it to mid-year because that is proof that we are making it through this interesting time.

Links you might like

- Check out Dr. Keenan’s blog corner on various topics https://www.ssdmo.org/updates
- Special School District https://www.ssdmo.org/
- SSD’s Parent Education Diversity & Awareness (PEDA) Department https://www.ssdmo.org/peda
- SSD PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Special School District ECSE Department provides services in 14 of the county school districts. On the next page you will find links to their websites for district specific information.
Director Office Hours:
I would like to hear from you; staff and families! Are there things that you would like to see posted in our newsletter? Are there questions that I might answer? Please join me during Director Office Hours.

- Wednesday January 20th
  3:30-4:00

Here is the zoom link or a phone number to call in.

https://zoom.us/j/94869691228?pwd=UE9XbDQ1OFZuWmo3c1JNdXBWN2hwQT09

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