

FEBRUARY 2024

Connect to our webpage for school news, calendars, menus, multi-page newsletters, staff email addresses, Infinite Campus parent portal access and more! [Columbus webpage](#)

Columbus Elementary & Appleton Bilingual School

Columbus 920- 852-5450
 Appleton Bilingual School 920 - 852-5535



Like our Columbus Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/columbusABS/>
 We will be posting exciting news about upcoming events and things happening in our classrooms!

Bell Times:

Columbus & ABS Grades K-5: 8:22am-3:20pm
 Early Childhood/Title 1 Preschool (Mon-Thurs):
 AM: 8:27-11:04am PM: 12:39-3:16pm

Be sure to update your phone contacts with our new phone numbers listed above.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	NO BGClub 2 COL Family Board Game Night 3:30-5pm	3
4	5	6	7	COL BOOK FAIR 8 Parent Teacher Conf 3:30-7:00pm	9	10
11	12	COL BOOK FAIR 13 Parent Teacher Conf 3:30-6:45pm	14 Happy Valentines Day	15	weather permitting 16 COL K-5 Field Trip Erb Park Sledding 12:40-2:20	17
18	NO CLASSES PROF DEV DAY	20 COL PTO MTG 4PM ROOM 400	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	MARCH 1 No BGClub	MARCH 2



Important message about birthdays and other celebrations:

Please do not bring in snacks/treats for birthdays or other celebrations. The AASD Board Policy (458) regarding Student Wellness was updated in 2018 in order to align our school wellness procedures with best practices. This change is to focus on honoring students through more inclusive practices that are not only more aligned to the updated policy, but are practices identified as being best for overall student health and wellness. Policy 458 reads:

D. Recognition for special occasion without treats

Recognitions for special occasions (birthdays, holidays, etc.) during the school day (starting at midnight the day before through a half hour after students are dismissed for the day) will not include students bringing in snacks/treats from outside of the District for other students and will instead take place through non-food practices.

Winter Recess Policy Baby It's Cold Outside!!

In Wisconsin, we know winter can be brutal! Our district does follow cold-weather guidelines for when the students must stay inside to avoid frostbite.

We cannot honor parent requests for their child to stay inside for recess without a medical excuse from a doctor. Please be sure your child is dressed for winter weather each morning as most days students will be spending their recess outdoors. Thank you. If your child is in need of winter outerwear, please call the office and we can help you out.

Reminder: All visitors must sign in at the office and obtain a visitor's badge.

From the desk of Mr. Cannon.....

We are looking forward to meeting with you during our upcoming parent-teacher conferences. Our first evening of conference will be Thursday, February 8th, from 3:30 to 7:00 and again the following Tuesday, February 13th, from 3:30 to 6:45. Please let the office know if you have not received your scheduled times from your child's teacher via the take home folders. Unless we heard from you, you will be scheduled the same evening and time as this past fall. Please note as well the Scholastic Book Fair will also be open during Parent-Teacher conferences. We are looking forward to partnering with you, celebrating student successes so far, and making plans for improvement for the second semester.

Semester one report cards will be viewable through Parent Portal on Friday, February 2nd, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Please take a look and discuss with your child their report card identifying areas of strength and making target goals for the second semester. As a staff we'll be using this information and the assessment data we collected in January to recalibrate targeted instruction for our students. We strive to ensure each student is challenged at their own pace as well as acquiring the grade level skills and knowledge needed.

Towards the end of the digital newsletter there is some information from Family Services on Parent Connection Programs and Parent Education Series. There's a variety of topic areas ranging from new and expecting parents to supporting our teenagers. There are opportunities for in-person events as well as online options for self-guided learning in this tricky endeavor called 'parenting'. We are hopeful to be able to offer some of these in-person trainings at our site in the future 😊.

Best,
JOEL

Community Opportunities for Students

The AASD shares local, community opportunities for students. These community opportunities include upcoming events and activities such as art and music camps, youth athletics, cultural events, enrichment programs, and more. We encourage AASD families to regularly review these opportunities for students of all ages. Check out the [AASD COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WEBPAGE](#) for a current list of opportunities for students.



Enrollment begins on
Monday, February
12th, 2024!!!



To enroll, your
child must be 4
years old
on or before
September 1st.

With many
locations in
Appleton, 4K is
inclusive, flexible
& near you!



Appleton Community 4K builds a lifelong love of learning through creativity, curiosity, problem solving, and exploration.

Why 4K? Because their learning journey starts now!

The AASD prides itself on providing our youngest learners with the opportunity to participate in a quality early learning program in a play-based model. Appleton's 4K develops the whole child by balancing critical early reading, writing, and math skills, with the social and emotional skills necessary to be successful in school and throughout their lives.

Want to learn more? Please visit 4k.aasd.k12.wi.us/our-school/enrollment to check out our helpful instructional videos and find one of our community partners near you. During the month of January, we welcome you to reach out to the 4K sites you are interested in learning more about. They'd love to talk to you and offer you a visit!

Find more information here!
¡Encuentra más información aquí!
Yog koj xav paub ntiv txog kev kawm
ntawv hauv 4K mus ntawm no!



Congratulations to the Columbus Mathletes!
They worked hard and did their best and they represented our school very well, we should all be very proud of them. Please congratulate all of our Columbus Mathletes.

**Hannah Herbst
Justine Lehman
Hunter Marg
Emmaline Young**



Mathlete

FAMILY GAME NIGHT



Join us for a night of fun!
Bring your own board game or join other families with their favorite games.

Learn how to engage your child in Math skills with a set of dice and pack of cards!

POPCORN AND PUNCH
WILL BE SERVED.

February 2
3:30-5:00

COLUMBUS GYM

Board Game Giveaways, Family Raffles and Paw buck participation!


MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Lunch • Popcorn Chicken • Crispy Fish Sandwich with Cheese	2 Lunch • Chicken Corn Dog • Toasty Cheese Sandwich • Campbell's Tomato Soup
5 Lunch • Macaroni and Cheese • The Perfect Sloppy Joe	6 Lunch • Top N Go Tostitos Tortilla Chips • Shredded Cheddar Cheese • Beef Taco Meat • Turkey Hot Dog	7 Lunch • Crispy Chicken Patty Sandwich • Cheesy Italian Pull Apart	8 Lunch • WG Cinnamon Glazed French Toast Sticks • Breakfast Syrup • Pork Sausage Patty • Ham and Cheese Wrap	9 Lunch • Personal Galaxy Cheese Pizza • Sunbutter & Crackers Fun Lunch
12 Lunch • Boneless Chicken Wings • Italian Meatball Sub	13 Lunch • Classic American Cheeseburger • Chicken Caesar Salad	14 Lunch • Cheese Pizza • Teriyaki Chicken	15 Lunch • Mini Turkey Corn Dogs • Turkey & Cheese Sub	16 Lunch • Popcorn Chicken • Homemade Hummus
19	20 Lunch • Whole Grain Apple Cinnamon Muffin • Low Fat Mozzarella String Cheese • Strawberry Banana Bash Yogurt • Crispy Fish Sticks	21 Lunch • Cheesy Italian Pull Apart • Marinara Sauce • Orange Chicken	22 Lunch • Whole Grain Waffles • Breakfast Syrup • Strawberry Banana Yogurt • Jumbo Crispy Chicken Tenders	23 Lunch • Classic American Cheeseburger • Cheese Quesadilla
26 Lunch • Boneless Chicken Wings • BBQ Rib-B-Q Sandwich	27 Lunch • Chicken Nuggets • Turkey & Cheese Sub	28 Lunch • Mini Turkey Corn Dogs • Teriyaki Chicken	29 Lunch • Personal Galaxy Cheese Pizza • Meatballs in Zesty Marinara	

Menus Subject to Change We try our best to serve our menus as posted; however, sometimes last minute changes occur. Please check with the cafe manager prior to the meal if you have any concerns.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Layout & Design © Nutrislice, Inc. Printed on 1/29/2024 at 2:20 pm.

THE COLUMBUS PTO NEEDS YOU!

Why Join the PTO?

<p>BENEFIT YOUR CHILD</p>  <p>Research shows that children's performance increases when parents are involved both at home and at school.</p>	<p>BENEFIT YOUR SCHOOL</p>  <p>PTO works closely with the teachers and administration to create a positive atmosphere within the school.</p>	<p>MAKE CONNECTIONS</p>  <p>PTO connects you with other parents within the school as well as the teachers and staff, creating a community!</p>
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No required commitment! Come to the meetings you can, volunteer when available, and stay informed!

The Columbus PTO would love to have you join us! Our next meeting is Tues, Feb 20 in the LMC. The meeting runs 4:00-5:00 PM. PTO membership is FREE and activities for kids are provided in the art room by neighborhood middle schoolers for the duration of the meeting.



Columbus PTO NEEDS YOU!

We have many events at Columbus sponsored by the PTO! See the backside of this sheet for remaining events this year and next year's events.



★ **We need your help to make the events successful.** Please let us know if you can help us with this year's and next year's events by visiting the Sign Up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FADAB2DA5FFC07-47475946-columbus> , scan the QR code or by letting us know below.

Please return this sheet with your responses or check out the link above. Thank you!!

★ **I can help with events. See the backside of this sheet.**

Name _____

Phone Number _____

What events interest you? _____

2024 PTO Events

Feb 20	PTO Meeting 4pm
March 11	Tom's Drive-In Fundraiser (4-8pm)
March 15	Spring Dance (6:00-7:30pm)
Mar 18	PTO Meeting 4pm
Apr 15	PTO Meeting 4pm
April 16	Black Bear Fundraiser Night
May 6-10	Staff Appreciation Week
May 20	PTO Meeting 4pm
June 6	End of Year Carnival 3:30-5pm

2024-2025 Events

Thurs Aug 29	Open House/Back to School Night (4:30-5:30)
Sept 6	Back to School Night
Thurs Oct 24	Trunk or Treat (5:30-6:00pm)
Thurs Oct 24	Fall Dance (6:00-7:30pm)
March 14	Spring Dance (6:00-7:30pm)
April 15	Black Bear Restaurant Fundraiser
May 5-9	Staff Appreciation Week
Thurs June 5	End of Year Carnival (3:30-5:00pm)
Fall and spring	Scholastic Book Fair during Conference Dates
Fall and Spring	Tom's Drive-In Fundraiser (sept 6 and mar 10)
Jan 1 start date	T Rats Reading Program and Game (ongoing duties)
All year	Box Tops (ongoing duties)

COLUMBUS THINK TANK

Dear Columbus Families,

Beginning Monday, February 5th, our school will be introducing Think Tank. The Think Tank will be used as a restorative practice to promote and reinforce positive behavior.

Our responsibility as educators is to ensure that our students leave our school with the highest level of education that we can provide. We also have the responsibility to shape our young minds to understand the difference between right and wrong. The consequences that come with wrong choices must align to the behavior so that our students learn from their mistakes.

The Think Tank will be a place where our students will go when they have been given multiple opportunities to change a negative behavior. Examples would be when a student is not following directions and is disturbing the classroom environment or a student is choosing not to participate in his/her learning community. It will also be a place for when students need to reflect on a negative behavior that has caused someone else harm.

In the Think Tank, students will be asked to think about why they demonstrated the behavior they did and how it negatively impacted them or those around them. Students will complete think sheets for reflection and to focus their thoughts. Afterwards they will discuss how they could have made a better choice. If a student is sent for the reason of work refusal, then they will complete the work that they did not do in class.

Families will be notified if their student was sent to the Think Tank by their child's teacher. Think Tank will occur during recess for K-2 and after school for Grades 3-5.

The Think Tank is our school's Universal tier for behavior. If a student is continually sent to the Think Tank for the same reason, after three times the teacher will send the student to the office with an Office Referral.

Our teachers have been working very hard since the beginning of school to establish a classroom environment in which procedures and routines have been taught, practiced, reinforced, and mastered. Our students are held to that high standard each day, and they continue to rise above. With the introduction of the Think Tank, we are adding a way to be more reflective with students so that they will make better choices in the future.

Thank you for your continuous support!



STUDENT ATTENDANCE



EMBRACE THE EVERY DAY!



DID YOU KNOW?



Students who are chronically absent in preschool through 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.



By 6th grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk of dropping out of school.



Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is:

- Losing interest in school
- Struggling with school-work
- Dealing with a bully
- Facing some other difficulty

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Make school attendance a priority. Help your child to be on time to school.



Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.



Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

HOW DOES LATE ARRIVAL AFFECT STUDENTS?



Minutes late per day	Equal days work of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 Mins	6.9 days
15 Mins	10.3 days
20 Mins	13.8 days
30 Mins	20.7 days



Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half of students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.

HOW TO CREATE A GOOD ROUTINE:



Set a daily schedule with the same wake-up times and bedtimes for each school day -- and stick to them.



Prepare morning routines the night before. Each night, have your student pick out their outfit, and have school supplies ready by the door. Being prepared the night before makes the morning routines simpler.



FREE DENTAL CARE **PROGRAM FOR YOUR CHILD**



If your **preschool, kindergarten and/or elementary school child**

- is eligible for free or reduced cost hot lunch
- or has a ForwardHealth card from Medicaid (BadgerCare)
- *and* **DOES NOT** have private dental insurance

they can receive **free** dental care.

Complete the attached forms and return them to your child's school and your child will be seen throughout the school year for routine dental care.

If you have any questions, PLEASE contact Lisa or Nkaoxue at Tri County Dental @920-882-5500 for additional information.

*See the back of this sheet for specific program information

Dental Program Process

Phase 1 Takes place in your child's school

(Or at clinic, a chaperoned school bus will transport children to and from the clinic)

- ✓ Dental hygienist will:
 - Clean your child's teeth and record the student's general oral health
 - Contact a parent/guardian with notification of urgent needs
 - Apply fluoride varnish (a mineral proven to reduce cavities), sealant or SDF (Silver Diamine Fluoride) as appropriate

Phase 2 Takes place on the Mobile Dental Clinic at your child's school

- ✓ Dental Hygienist or Dental Assistant will:
 - Take x-rays
 - Place sealants, if appropriate
 - Apply fluoride varnish and Silver Diamine Fluoride (if necessary)
- ✓ Children will receive oral health education
- ✓ A Dentist will do a thorough examination of your child's teeth, preparing a treatment plan if your child requires fillings and/or other dental work
 - ✓ *Children requiring additional treatment will need Phase 3*

Phase 3 Takes place on the Mobile Dental Clinic at your child's school or at Tri-County Dental Clinic

(For clinic visits, a chaperoned school bus will transport children to and from the clinic)

- ✓ A dentist will provide the necessary restorative work your child requires
(You will be notified before your child is seen for fillings and consent must be obtained by you before any tooth extraction.)
- ✓ Parent/guardian is encouraged to call our clinic for restorative needs
(Please know that dental problems will not go away on their own, so please contact us as soon as possible to schedule follow-up care.)

920-882-5500



For Office Use Only:
 Chart #: _____

DENTAL CONSENT FORM

Dear Parent,

Tri-County Dental is offering an oral health program for children in your elementary school. The program includes a dental cleaning, an exam, x-rays, fillings, fluoride treatments and oral health education. A new toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss will be sent home with your child. Please complete this form if you want your child to be part of the program:

Child's Last Name: _____ Child's First Name: _____
 Child's Date of Birth: ____-____-____ Female / Male Phone Number (____) ____-____
 Child's Address: _____ Zip Code: _____
 School: _____ City: _____
 Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade (circle): EC/PK K 1 2 3 4 5 6

- Does your child have private dental insurance? **YES / NO** – if YES, your child may only be seen for fluoride treatment
 Name of Dental Insurance Company: _____
- Does your child see a dentist on a regular basis (every 6 months)? **YES / NO**
- Does your child have allergies to Colophony resin? **YES / NO**
- Does your child have Medicaid (Medical Assistance, Badger Care, Title 19)? **YES / NO**
Medicaid Number (Member ID) _____

Child's Race/Ethnicity (Check all that apply): _____ White _____ African American/Black _____ Asian
 _____ Hispanic _____ American Indian / Alaska Native _____ Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander _____ Other

I understand the nature of the treatment provided and authorize Tri-County Dental staff to provide oral health treatment.

- I acknowledge that Tri-County Dental may use my child's information for treatment and may disclose it to my insurance company and/or other health care providers even though it may affect future insurance claims.
- I understand that this registration is effective for a period of **thirteen months** to provide follow-up services, including restorative treatment, dental cleaning, application of sealants and multiple fluoride applications which may include silver diamine fluoride SDF is an antibiotic liquid and helps slow further decay; will cause staining to the treated lesion and potential staining of skin and clothes; will not stain a healthy tooth; is a treatment for cavities but not a cure, so additional restorative care may be needed; reapplication for disease control may be needed. Please inform Tri-County Dental if child has a silver allergy or is unable to have fluoride.
- I understand that my child's restorative treatment plan, if necessary, will be provided to me prior to the treatment starting.
- I am authorizing Tri-County Dental to use nitrous oxide if needed for the completion of dental treatment.
- I agree to the release of my child's treatment plan records so I can receive them from the school.
- I am specifically authorizing the clinic to treat my child whether I am physically present at the clinic during a scheduled treatment.

My signature will confirm my informed consent, my status as the legal custodian of the minor patient identified and my authority to grant this consent. I understand that I may contact Tri-County Dental at 920.882.5500 with any questions.

 (Print) parent/guardian (Signature) parent/guardian Date

Medical History

For the following medical history questions, please (x) whichever applies. Your answers are for our records only and will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable laws. Please note you will be asked some questions about your responses to this questionnaire and there may be additional questions concerning your child's health. This information is vital to allow us to provide appropriate care for your child. This clinic does not use this information to discriminate.

Child's Name: _____

WE CANNOT SEE YOUR CHILD IF THIS IS NOT COMPLETE

Please check yes, no, or unsure if your child has/had any of the following conditions:

Yes	No	Unsure		Yes	No	Unsure		Yes	No	Unsure	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allergies (list below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hepatitis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tumors
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anemia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Herpes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radiation Treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	High Blood Pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chronic Ear Infections
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Autism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HIV/AIDS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant (at this time)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ADHD/ADD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hyperactivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Birth Defects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kidney Disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing Loss/Impairment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bleeding Problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disabilities				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Liver Disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Heart Conditions/Murmur
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If yes to heart murmur, is an antibiotic required before dental appointments? If you are unsure, we will need confirmation from your cardiologist before treatment.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cerebral Palsy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Muscular Dystrophy				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Developmental Delay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Psychiatric Problems				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rheumatic Fever				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Downs Syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seizures				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emotional Problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sickle Cell Anemia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jaundice (not at birth)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Epilepsy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Skin Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Delayed Speech Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fainting Spells	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuberculosis				

Please explain all "Yes" or "Unsure" responses:

Please list any other problems/conditions/allergies your child may have

Current Medication List

Is your child taking any prescription medications, over the counter medications, vitamins, natural and/or herbal dietary supplements? Yes No If yes, please list medications.

Medication	Reason for Taking	How Much	How Often

To the best of my knowledge, the indicated health history remains current. I understand that any change in the patient's health or medication requires that an updated form be completed. I will not hold my dentist, or any other member of his/her staff, responsible for any action they take or do not take because of errors or omissions that I may have made in the completion of this form. I certify that I have read and understand the above.

I acknowledge that my questions, if any, about inquiries set forth above have been answered to my satisfaction.

_____/_____/_____
 (Print) parent/guardian (Signature) parent/guardian Date ____/____/____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Number: _____

For Office Use Only:

Chart #: _____



STUDENT NAME: _____ GRADE: _____



PHOTO / INTERVIEW RELEASE

Date: _____

I, _____, hereby give the Tri-County Community Dental Clinic, its staff, representatives, community partners, and legal representatives (in connection with dental services which I am receiving) and irrevocably agree and consent to allow photographs and or information from interviews to be used as part of the dental record, research, education, public relations, patient counseling, or other purposes.

Consent: _____
Signature





2024
January to May
Newsletter

Curiosity is Important for Later School Success, Encourage Curiosity

By Jenifer Rettler | Parent Connection

Curiosity is the key that unlocks a world of learning and growth for young children. It is a powerful force that propels them into exploration, discovery and understanding. When they are curious it sparks them to ask questions, seek out answers and engage with their world. When their curiosity has been satisfied they often find continued joy in discovering.

Did you know that play is a great way to encourage your child's curiosity? In this play let your child take the lead and watch what they are curious about, then support and praise it. Let them express their creativity and help create an environment where they can be curious, explore and be safe.

The benefits of curiosity are even more pronounced if a child lives in poverty. So especially when money is lacking, encouraging curiosity in children is a great help to their later school success.

"I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious."
Albert Einstein

PARENT CONNECTION PROGRAMS

Visit www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection to learn more about our programs

Call to speak with a Parent Connection team member:

Fox Cities (920) 739-4226, Oshkosh (920) 233-6630, Shawano (715) 853-0923



Parents as Teachers

Parents as Teachers Home Visitation

This free early learning program is designed for parents-to-be, parents, and their babies to learn, grow and reach development goals together.

Family Support Specialists trained in early childhood & brain development can conduct home visits from before the child's birth to the age of three.

Visits include:

- Parenting information
- Child development information
- Constructive play ideas
- Developmental screenings
- Connection to community resources

Fox Cities serves:

Outagamie County & Calumet County with an Appleton or Menasha address; eligible first-time parents & parents-to-be

Oshkosh serves:

Winnebago County; all eligible parents & parents-to-be

Shawano serves:

Shawano & Menominee areas; eligible first-time parents & parents-to-be

Call for more information

Fox Cities: (920) 739-4226
Oshkosh: (920) 233-6630
Shawano: (715) 853-0923

"What I enjoyed most about the workshop was the conversation along with the learning material. Thank you for all the information and support."

Parent Education Workshops

Parent Education is for *anyone* living or working with children and families.

Parent Connection offers a variety of Parent Education topics through our Family Wellness Program, offering research and evidence-based curriculum that is relevant to the needs of the community.

We offer *scholarships* to families in our service areas (Outagamie, Winnebago, Shawano, Menominee & parts of Calumet Counties).

Free childcare is available at most In-Person workshops. Limited spots, register early.

We reserve the right to cancel workshops with low enrollment. Fees will be refunded for any cancelled workshops.

Visit our website & Facebook page for the most current Workshops & Events:

<https://www.familyservicesnew.org/parenting-classes>

www.facebook.com/ParentConnectionWI

Or Contact the Workshop Team:
workshops@familyservicesnew.org
(920) 739-4226 ext. 127

Support Group

NAMI Parent & Caregiver Support Group

2nd Monday of Every Month

In-Person | 6:00-7:30 pm

Cost: FREE

[January 8](#) | [February 12](#)

[March 11](#) | [April 8](#) | [May 13](#)

This Support Group is for parents & caregivers of school-aged children with behavioral & mental health challenges. Our support groups provide participants with a relaxed, trusting & safe environment to share with & support others who can empathize with their experiences. Participants share strategies & coping skills, discover community resources & experience the benefits of mutual compassion.

Registering ahead helps us plan for you. Walk-ins are welcomed.

Community Events

35th Annual Parent Resource Fair

Formerly known as the Young Parent Conference

Friday, May 3 & Saturday, May 4

This FREE event is for any parent or parents-to-be. Take some time to learn from experts in our communities about your children, parenting, health, safety & more - *Just for You!*

Teen & young adult parents are encouraged to attend.

Listen to our speakers, Check out our Community Resource Fair, Stay for any part of this event you choose.

Go to our Website and Facebook pages to learn more.

Registration will open early 2024!

"Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation I have for this program [Parents as Teachers]. Thank you for the opportunity to participate. I recommend this program for every momma & papa bear out there."

PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Clicking the [Class Date](#) on our digital newsletter links you to the Online Registration.

Scholarships available, Contact the Workshop Team at workshops@familyservicesnew.org or Call (920) 739-4226 ext. 127
In-Person workshops are in Appleton. Cancellation Line: Call (920) 739-4226 ext. 154 to check on any workshop cancellations

Workshops

Baby Basics for New & Expectant Dads

In-Person - [Mon, Feb 26](#)
& [Mon, May 20](#)

6:00-9:00 pm | Cost: \$10

Sign-up for one session

This program designed *Just for Dads* discusses & demonstrates basic newborn care (*handling, feeding, burping, changing, cleaning & calming*), what to expect in the coming months & how to enhance your baby's development.

NEW! Back to Baby Basics: Dads Discussion Group

In-Person - [Mon, Jan 22](#)
& [Mon, April 15](#)

6:00-7:30 pm | Cost: FREE

This discussion group is *Just for Dads of infants in their first year*. After having your new baby home for a while, you may have new questions or concerns about the day-to-day responsibilities of caring for your infant, being a good co-parent, and balancing it all with the rest of your life. *Back to Baby Basics* is a discussion group for dads to share how everything has been going, questions and concerns, and what's been going well.

Love & Logic: Early Childhood Parenting

In-Person - [Tuesdays, Jan 30-Feb 13](#)

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This 3-session workshop offers practical techniques for raising responsible kids. Learn discipline with your children without losing their love & respect (or your sanity).

Effective communication, choices and consequences are the foundation of this program for positive learning & growth of your children.

Love and Logic: Adults Supporting Youth with Challenging Pasts

In-Person - [Tuesdays, April 23-May 7](#)

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This workshop is for any adult serving or living with children & teens who have experienced loss, hardship or trauma. Cut through the complexity of working with youth with challenging pasts & provide real solutions that can be applied immediately.

We will discuss the steps to build relationships, deal with defiance, show empathy, minimize power struggles & support opportunities for success.



Anger & Emotion Management for Parents

Choose one option below

Online - [Thurs, Feb 22](#) | 12:00-2:00 pm

In-Person - [Tue, March 19](#) | 6:00-8:00 pm

Online - [Thurs, May 23](#) | 12:00-2:00 pm

Cost: \$10

Our children bring us incredible joy. Yet there are times we find ourselves crabby, frustrated or angry with the people we love. Learn how to manage anger to improve your relationships. Learn the five stages of anger & the top ten anger producers. Get to know your own anger, anger style & how to manage it to create a more harmonious home.

Positive Discipline Parenting

Choose one option below

Online - [Thurs, Feb 29](#) | 12:00-2:00 pm

In-Person - [Tue, March 26](#) | 6:00-8:00 pm

Online - [Thurs, May 30](#) | 12:00-2:00 pm

Cost: \$10

This course will talk about discipline as structure, routine, communication & being our children's role models. Build up your children's positive behaviors & sense of self-esteem. Let's talk about how we can start Positive Discipline in our homes today.



Active Parenting of Preteens & Teens

In-Person - [Mondays, March 18-April 1](#)

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This workshop is for parents who want to prepare for or are experiencing the changes of teenage development & want to help prepare their preteens & teens to survive & thrive in society.

Topics will include:

Active Parenting, Winning Cooperation, Responsibility & Discipline, Building Courage & Redirecting Misbehavior, Drugs & Sexuality, Violence & Reducing Risks.



Special Presentation: Parents Rights & Role in the IEP Process

[Mon, Jan 29](#) | 6:00-8:00 pm

Cost: FREE

The IEP process can be scary and intimidating. The better prepared parents are for their child's IEP, whether its an initial evaluation, annual IEP or re-evaluation, the more empowered you will be. This presentation will provide a brief review of the IEP and evaluation timeline. There will be a discussion of the new DPI rules for seclusion and restraint, and the notification process. Parents will also learn about their role in the process and be given strategies and checklists in order to take the frustration and anxiety out of the IEP. Parents will also learn outside district resources they can call on for support.



On Demand

Potty Training

[Previously recorded video](#)

Cost: FREE

Potty training can test your patience & expectations, it can be repetitive, messy & frustrating. But caregivers can help children do this when they are ready! This video from a prior class helps you look for & prepare for "readiness" & talks about ways you can help & support a child during this important milestone in their development.



Parent Connection is a program of Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc.

Fox Cities: 1810 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI 54952 | (920) 739-4226

Oshkosh: 36 Broad Street, Suite 150, Oshkosh, WI 54901 | (920) 233-6630

Shawano: 607 E Elizabeth Street, Shawano, WI 54166 | (715) 853-0923

Visit us at: www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection



For the most up-to-date listing of Parent Connection Workshops, Events, Community Resources & more - Sign-up for our monthly e-Newsletter!

It's easy to join our mailing list!

Just send your email address by text message!

Text:
PARENTCONNECTION
to 42828
and start getting
program updates!



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