

# Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

Fall 2023

## From the Director's Desk



### Mission Statement

The mission of the Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start Program is to empower our families by providing educational and family-focused opportunities to improve their economic well-being and healthy lifestyle. We will accomplish this mission one child, one family at a time by involving parents and securing highly qualified staff.

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Greetings! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Angela Calhoun and I am honored to step in as your new Director of Head Start. I have my bachelors, Masters, and Education Specialist degrees in Early Childhood Education from THE Alabama State University. I also have a Master's degree in Learning, Design, and Technology. I look forward to working with you as we continue to build upon the program's successes. I would also like to welcome you all to a new school year full of love and learning. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we have been learning to come together as a school family. This year our districtwide theme is "Building Our Future for Academic Success". However, we need your support in accomplishing this goal. Please take an active role in your child's education by reinforcing the skills being taught in the classroom as well as participating in the activities that we have designed with you and your family in mind.

During the month of October, we have been celebrating "Head Start Awareness Month." Please use social media to share how Head Start has influenced your child and family. Be on the lookout for announcements for dates and times of special events and other wonderful upcoming activities.

We all have returned to "normal" as best as we can, while being safe. Volunteering is strongly encouraged at this time. Remember that TB skin tests are required for all who wish to volunteer. Our goal is to keep your children safe and healthy. Volunteer training will take place within the next few weeks.

I am excited to see what the rest of this year will bring. If there is anything we at Head Start can do for your family, do not hesitate to call on us as we are here to assist. Thank you all once again, for trusting us with educating your children and allowing us to be a part of their development.

Lots of amazing things have been happening these first few months. Please read on as we share all that we have been up to.

Angela J. Calhoun  
Director

## October is Head Start Awareness Month

## Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

## Fiscal News Report

### Greetings,

Welcome to the beginning of another school year. Each program year, the Lowndes County Board of Education is required to meet In-Kind or Non-Federal Share Match requirements

### ***Do You Know About In-Kind Services?***



The Head Start Act requires all Head Start and Early Head Start programs to gather in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions are donations of **time and services provided or donated goods that are received and used**. One example of an in-kind contribution is when you spend time with your child doing fun activities that help prepare them for school. To help us keep track of your in-kind donations, a form has been developed to record the activities you do with your child each month. Speak to your family service advocate for more information. Family service advocates and teachers have lots of fun ideas for activities that you can do at home to better prepare your child for school. Ask your child's teacher for more information.

Have a great year!

Lashica Mason- McCall  
Fiscal Manager



## Family & Community Services Report

Greetings from the Family and Community Partnerships department!

The parent committees have conducted at all three school sites from August 2023 through October 2023. How many meetings have you attended thus far?

Please make every effort to attend your monthly meetings. If you cannot attend due to work schedules, please ask a family to participate in your absence. The meetings are held in order to plan and organize activities at your center.

We would like to thank all parents, guardians, and community partners for donating a total of \$21,473.78 in-kind donations as of October 30, 2023.

Central Head Start: \$ 9,886.94  
Fort Deposit Head Start: \$ 9,047.72  
Jackson-Steele Head Start: \$ 1,880.41  
Community Partners: \$ 678.71



## Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

Continued

<b>Central Head Start</b>	<b>Fort Deposit Head Start</b>	<b>Jackson-Steele Head Start</b>
Tenease Lawrence-President Jessica Shuford-Vice President Shanice Williams-Secretary Angela Lawrence-Assistant Secretary Renatta Clark-Treasurer	Dr. Kimberly Ray- President Dominique Harriel Sr.-Vice President Nakeya Scott-Secretary Aundrey Fountain- Treasurer	Kandace Thomas-President Robyn Raven-Vice President AnnNavia Lee-Secretary Sherita White-Assistant Secretary Yolanda Peoples-Treasurer
<b>Policy Council Representatives</b>	<b>Policy Council Representatives</b>	<b>Policy Council Representatives</b>
Renatta Clark Tenease Lawrence	Tammy Johnson Minnie Tolliver	Ann'Navia Lee Natasha McCall
<b>Alternate Policy Council Representatives</b>	<b>Alternate Policy Council Representatives</b>	<b>Alternate Policy Council Representatives</b>
Tiara Purifoy Jessica Shuford	Dr. Kimberly Jordan Ray	Quanita Oliver Robyn Raven

Congratulations!!! For accomplishing all 7 Parent, Family, and Community Partnerships Goals  
 Mrs. Kimberly Jones Smith  
 Ms. Sharell Vaughns  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ra'Sean Fountain  
 Ms. Malaka Griffin  
 Ms. Alandra Lee

### Parents and Grandparents Spotlights

#### **Central Head Start**

Kimberly Jones Smith is enrolled at Trenholm State Community College pursuing a degree in Child and Human Development.

Tenease Lawrence received the Alabama Head Start Association's 2023 Parent of the Year Award.

Aneisha McCord enrolled in the Family Guidance Center of Alabama's Kids and Kin program.

Mariah McMeans graduated from Hope Inspired Ministries on October 11, 2023.

Victoria Morgan obtained employment with Hayneville Middle School in August 2023.

#### **Fort Deposit Head Start**

Mrs. Aundrey Fountain is enrolled in the Temple University's Strength Based Family Worker program.

Brttany Hunter is enrolled at Troy University pursuing a Bachelor Degree in Global Business/Accounting/Finance.

Trifari Moore obtained employment with Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start in August 2023.

#### **Jackson-Steele Head Start**

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Haigler and Chequita Surles Johnson and their family for receiving the Family Guidance Center of Alabama's 2023 Family of the Year Award.

## Health Report



We are building a strong foundation here at LCBOE Head Start. We are focusing on a healthy start. We are going to make this year the best year yet by being healthy and safe. Remember to keep your child's medical records up to date at all times. During the month of August, the Head Start students were offered free vision exams through our partnership with Focus First/Impact Alabama. We will continue to build healthy foundations throughout the school year with other health screenings. Allow your child/children to participate in these FREE screenings so they can build a healthy foundation. Remember if your child is not feeling well, has a suspicious rash, or any of the following symptoms...keep them at home.

~~~Let's build a healthy foundation! ~~~

Joan Moorers-Robinson  
Health/Mental Health Coordinator

## Healthy Snack

*Recipe By:* Michele O'Sullivan

"This is a fun snack that kids can make. It consists of artfully arranged celery, peanut butter, and raisins."

### Ingredients

- 5 stalks celery
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/4 cup raisins



### Directions

1. Cut the celery stalks in half. Spread with peanut butter. Sprinkle with raisins.

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# October

## Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

## Education Report

Dear Friends and Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year at Lowndes County Head Start! We are very excited to begin a new year, to meet many new families, and to reunite with our returning families. We hope that you have had a relaxing summer.

The first quarter of this 2023-24 school year has been filled with the excitement of seeing new faces and making new friends. Throughout this time, we have worked on the following skills:

### LITERACY SKILLS:

- Environmental sounds and print
- Recognizing High Frequency Words
- Identifying Letters of the Alphabet
- Counting Syllables
- Identifying and Producing Rhyming Words
- Recognizing Initial Sounds

### MATH SKILLS:

- Counting, Making, and Producing Small Groups
- Matching and identifying two dimensional shapes
- Identifying and Comparing Numbers



Our teaching staff has participated in multiple workshops geared towards meeting your children's health, safety, and educational needs.

The following assessment tools have been administered to measure developmental performance:

- DENVER II
- Teaching Strategies GOLD
- ASQ
- Early Growth Indicators Benchmark

We look forward to celebrating with you and your children, their academic successes and social growth.

Angela Calhoun, Education/Disabilities Manager

## Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

### Center News

#### Central Head Start News

During the month of August, Central Head Start started school with a big bang. Everyone was excited and the learning began on Day 1. The children were introduced to each other and the parents were given activities to help their child(ren) during the first week of school. The children learned the class motto by Dr. Seuss, "I have brains in my head, feet in my shoes, and I can steer myself in any direction I choose". This means that they can be what they want to be, go where they want to go, but they will have to apply themselves.

During the month of September, Central Head Starters are still learning, still experiencing new activities, and challenges yet they are conquering them all one step at a time. We also participated in Central High School's Homecoming parade and spirit week. The children were able to attend the parade where they experienced a wonderful time.

During the month of October, Central Head Start participated in a read aloud activity with Mrs. McDonald. She read the book called, "There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly". Destiny Robinson dressed as the old lady and Khristian Scott acted out the part as the old man. Each child was given different animals and participated as each animal's name was called. During Halloween Spirit Week, each day the children dressed up and showed out. On October 31, 2023, Ms. Davis spearheaded Central Head Start's Truck or Treat and it was amazing. We invited law enforcement, community representatives, Board Members, Mr. Seaborn (retired Superintendent), Mr. Nelson (retired Head Start Director), volunteer fire department members, grandparents, moms, dads, uncles, aunts, and cousins. All who helped made this an awesome event.

#### Fort Deposit Head Start News

Greetings from Ft. Deposit! This year we welcomed two new members to our Head Start family Ms. Maggie Mason and Ms. Trifari Moore. October was a very busy month full of lots of activities. We started off by holding a Signing Day for our parents. Then we had Grapes with Gran to celebrate our grandparents.

Also during the month of October, we showed our support for breast cancer awareness. Finally, we held our spirit week to show school spirit as well as Red Ribbon Week.

#### Jackson-Steele Head Start News

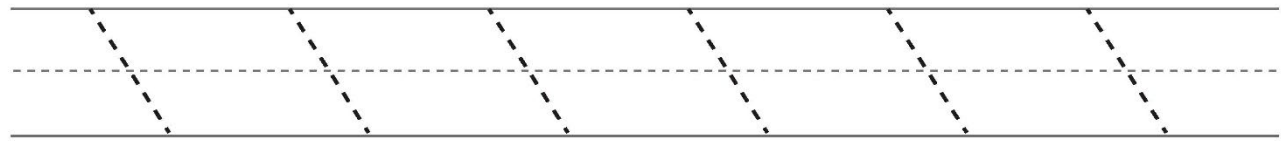
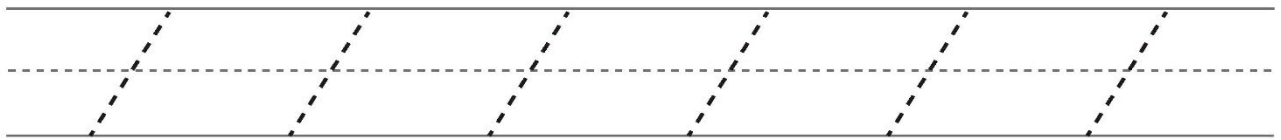
Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year. We would like to thank each and every one of you for being a part of this school family. We would like to send a heartfelt welcome to our new Pre-K Teacher Assistant Ms. Howard. August started off with a BANG welcoming our babies back and jumping head first into learning. In the month of September, we celebrated Grandparents Day, where the grans came and had lunch with the grandchildren. They also had Grapes with Grans where they made picture frames with them.

In the month of October, we honor Breast Cancer Awareness, where we wore pink in recognition of Breast Cancer Survivors. We also hosted a Halloween Fall Festival for the children where they got a chance to participate in different activities and enjoyed a variety of different food. We ended the month of October with a Halloween party and a special guest from Superintendent Jeter (Barbie).

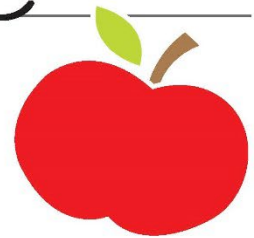
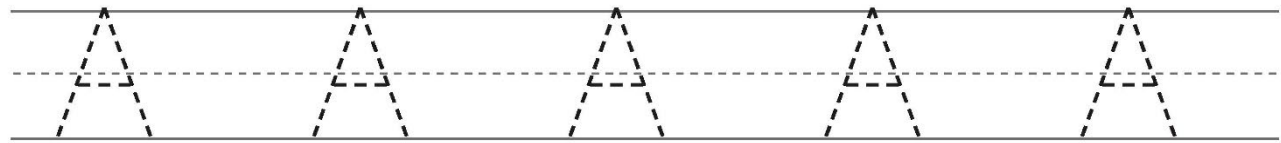
**Kids Place**

# The Letter A

First practice tracing these diagonal lines.



Then, trace the letter A.





## Recruitment Information:

We are now taking applications for all sites for the 2018-2019 school year. If you know of any children that are three (3), and/or four (4) years old, **please call 334.548.2145** for more information.

You must have the following:

Proof of age, Proof of Income, and current Immunization Record.

107 W Lafayette Street

P.O. Box 158

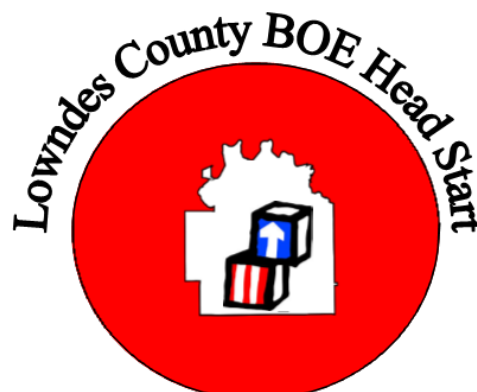
Hayneville, AL 36040

Phone: 334-548-2145

Fax: 334-548-2021

E-mail: [headstart@lowndesboe.org](mailto:headstart@lowndesboe.org)

Website: [www.lowndesboeheadstart.org](http://www.lowndesboeheadstart.org)



Shaping The Future and Getting Ready for School  
One Triangle, Square and Circle at a Time.