November 18, 2024

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lawrence Township Early Childhood Advisory Council

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DISTRICT ASPIRATIONS



WELLNESS

We know and understand our students as the unique individuals they are.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We engage each student at their level, facilitate high levels of learning, and cultivate curiosity.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

We welcome, celebrate, and build relationships with every member of our community.

Agenda

Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)

- Purpose
- Stakeholders/Partners
- Responsibilities
- Structure and Operations
- Administrative Updates

What is ECAC?

Early Childhood Advisory Council or “ECAC” means an advisory group of community stakeholders interested in the education and welfare of children in preschool through grade three that is convened by the school district (N.J.A.C.6A:13A-1.2).

What is ECAC?

Members: Community and Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS), School Personnel, Parents/ Caregivers,Community Stakeholders, and Early Childhood Providers

Other Representatives:

- Local health/social service agencies
- Early intervention services
- Business community
- Municipal government
- Higher education

Responsibilities of ECAC

- Develop and conduct a Community Needs Assessment (CNA), review and analyze results.
- Participate in obtaining specific community needs and resources.
- Serve as the conduit between community needs and resources

Structure and operations

- Meet at least quarterly;
- Elect its own leadership and adopt its own bylaws;
- Be led by elected chair representative (CPIS) and one co-chair community representative;
- Concentrate on preschool as well as the preschool through third grade continuum;

Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

Main Focus of the Assessment - Gather community input to ensure that the needs of our community are served within the scope of early childhood education.

Purpose: To identify family challenges which can be supported by preschool staff, to inform Preschool Goals, aligned with the mission of ECAC to serve our children and families of LTPS by facilitating and sustaining collaboration while ensuring success for all children.

Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

Example topics included in the CNA are as follows:

-Health
-Nutrition

-Self-Regulation
-Bedtime

-Challenging Behaviors
-Establishing Routines

Next Steps

Next Meeting: February 2025

Topics: Leadership Roles and Bylaws

Examples of ECAC Committees:

- Needs Assessment Committee
- Transition Committee
- Community Engagement Committee

Administrative Updates

Preschool Family Handbook

Feedback on our Preschool Website: Is there any additional information that would be beneficial to add to the website?

Referendum

Administrative Updates

