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Workforce Solutions Capital Area Child Care Provider News

You're Invited to the July Provider Advisory Council Meeting

Provider Advisory Council Meetings provide a way for Child Care Services providers to stay connected and up-to-date with news and information. We welcome your suggestions for agenda items. Please plan to join us for the next

Provider Advisory Council Meeting:

Thursday, July 25, 2019

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area North

9001 N IH 35, Suite 110C
Austin, TX 78753
Room 111

Please RSVP by July 19, 2019

Note: Lunch will only be provided for those who RSVP

Texas Rising Star Achievements

Join us in congratulating...

New Texas Rising Star Providers

- Goodwill Exploration Center
- Happy Bunnies
- New Generation
- Kinney Avenue Christian Preschool
- Austin Achieve Extend A Care
- Children's Courtyard - Mopac
- Growing Imaginations
- Blazier Extend A Care

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the children and families in Travis County!

Join us for the 2019 Child Care Teachers Symposium

Our annual Child Care Teachers Symposium is coming up soon! On August 10, join us for a wonderful day focused on teacher-child interactions and positive guidance!

[Click here to learn more and register to attend.](#)

Did You Know?

We offer discounts to parents who choose quality rated providers. If you are interested in becoming quality rated and being able to market a new discount to your parents, please contact Michelle Crawford at michelle.crawford@wfscapitalarea.com to learn more about Texas Rising Star, our quality rating system.

CLASS Corner

Behavior Management in the Classroom

We've all had kids in the classroom who push limits, can't manage their feelings, constantly demand attention. Believe it or not, they are sending you a message. When kids misbehave, they are operating based on mistaken learning. With time, patience, and planning you can help them relearn! If you reframe your thinking about children's behavior and recognize that

misbehavior is usually based on mistaken learning, you are well on your way to helping your kids.

Every behavior sends a message. The first thing we need to do is figure out what they are telling us. The children who push the hardest are the ones who are telling us the only way they know how: "I need help!" Ultimately, we want to help them learn self-regulation, and find more appropriate ways to deal with strong feelings. That doesn't happen without our help.

So, let's dig in a bit and see what they are trying to communicate!

Behavior

Children's behavior (or misbehavior) has a purpose. For whatever reason, this behavior has been reinforced and is, therefore, repeated. In other words, it's *working* from the child's point of view. We need to figure out what is the benefit to the child. We need to figure out what this behavior means, what message the child is sending. To think more deeply about what is going on.

Let's think about a kid in a grocery store checkout line requesting, louder and louder, with more and more passion that mom/dad give them candy. Mom/Dad say no, and the request becomes a demand and everyone is looking at the scene playing out. So, to deal with the embarrassment, the kid gets the candy. The next time that child is in that line, they are going to default to the decibel level that worked the last time. The parents try to ignore this, and boom! Up goes the level of hysteria. They give in. **And the cycle reinforces the behavior.** Lesson learned. Screaming=candy!

Now, think of a classroom. Everyone is playing in centers and it's time to clean up. Sammy doesn't want to stop playing (he's just made the coolest tower!) and when the cleanup reminder comes, Sammy runs away from the teacher, throwing toys. Sammy is feeling very upset to have his play disrupted. He is letting us know this in no uncertain terms. Sammy goes to time out, and the block tower is dismantled. Lesson learned. Run away=no cleanup!

Children behave in certain ways to get something or to avoid something. And when they are successful (even if it is done in a challenging way) they will repeat the behavior. The best way to figure out what the purpose of the behavior is, is to track that behavior. Look for patterns, and find the antecedents. Make a note of what behavior you want to focus on (e.g. not cleaning up, screaming for something), then when it happens, write down the time, what was happening before the behavior, and what was the outcome.

Classroom Management

Something else to consider is the way you manage your classroom. **By intentionally planning for your day you send a message to your children.** Your classroom can nurture, guide, excite, and connect you to your children. Our classroom culture also sends a message. Your planning should reflect the needs of your children. Are you thinking ahead to contribute to children learning how to self-regulate? Ask yourself, is this a classroom that helps children feel connected, safe, and do they understand what is expected? Does the classroom invite exploration, support play? Are your expectations for their

behavior appropriate?

Here are some questions that children have:

- Am I safe here?
- Am I known here?
- Do my feelings matter?
- Can I feel accomplished here?
- Do I fit in?
- What does “right” mean?
- Is it okay to make a mistake?
- Can we have fun?

Remember our goal is to understand that messages frame behavior and our response to those messages reframe behavior. Let's turn those mistakes around and help children learn what to do instead.

This post originally appeared on Teachstone.com.

Upcoming CCS Office Closures

Workforce Solutions Child Care Services will be closed:

July 4, 2019

September 2, 2019

Feedback

We welcome your response! Workforce Solutions Capital Area is committed to bringing quality child care news to the community. If you have comments about this newsletter or suggestions for future topics, please contact Nicole Robinson at nicole.robinson@wfscapitalarea.com or 512.597.7130.



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