



Agenda for **CHILDREN**

...a voice for Louisiana's children and families

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

Building a Foundation for Learning

Saturday, May 13th, 2017

8:00 am – 3:15 pm | Registration begins at 7:30 am

Ascension Christian High School

14408 East Academy Rd

Gonzales, LA 70737

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to announce that we are changing our approach to providing professional development opportunities to better serve the early childhood community. In much the same way that everything you do in the classroom is intentional and designed to maximize children's learning, we want to make sure that all of our professional development offerings are designed specifically to maximize your learning and effectiveness in the classroom.

In the past, we mostly offered "stand-alone" three-hour workshops in the evenings and on Saturdays, as well as targeted trainings for centers participating in technical assistance. We found that most people were not registering for our training workshops in a manner that could maximize their classroom teaching/and or understanding of child development.

Going forward, we want to provide you with a cohesive learning experience, so most of our workshops will be offered through all-day seminars on Fridays and/or Saturdays. Rather offering a random assortment of workshops throughout the year, our seminars will give you the option of registering for up to three related two-hour workshops in a single day, letting you earn up to six clock hours of professional development in one day. Each seminar will give you a "deep dive" into a theme related to CLASS so that you can gain the knowledge and skills you need to improve your interactions with children.

We hope that you are as excited by this new approach as we are! We believe that this change will create a better learning experience for you, as well as free up more of your time throughout the year to enjoy your evenings and weekends with your family and friends.

We look forward to receiving your feedback on our new approach to providing improved professional development opportunities for you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Anthony Recasner
Chief Executive Officer

Changes to our Approach: the Nuts & Bolts

- ⇒ **We will regularly offer one- or two-day seminars on Fridays and Saturdays focused on specific CLASS-aligned themes.**
- ⇒ **Seminars will be held at different locations throughout the region that can accommodate several workshops at the same time.**
- ⇒ **We will no longer offer evening workshops** because we saw that it was just too hard for educators to engage in meaningful professional development activities after they had already had a full day of working.
- ⇒ **We will continue to offer Saturday morning workshops**, but we won't offer quite as many so that we can concentrate on the full-day seminars.
- ⇒ **We will offer fewer Health and Safety classes** because the Louisiana Department of Education will offer these classes.
- ⇒ **All workshops will be two (not three) hours in length.**

AT-A-GLANCE SCHEDULE

DAY 1: MAY 19TH

Sessions will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the session.

Session 1

8:00 am - 10:00 am



Classroom Transitions

Kelisha Washington



Building Collaborative Relationships with Families

Stephanie Dunmiles



Language is Key

Dianna Constant

Session 2

10:15 am - 12:15 pm



Classroom Transitions

Kelisha Washington



Creative Curriculum Infant/Toddler

Elizabeth Keif



Frog Street Pre-K

Suzanne Millerhebert

Lunch (on your own)

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Session 3

1:15 pm - 3:15 pm



Food Safety & Sanitation/ Emergency Preparedness

Dianna Constant



Creative Curriculum Pre-K

Elizabeth Keif



Frog Street Infant/Toddler

Suzanne Millerhebert

Legend: Infant Teachers

Toddler Teachers

Preschool Teachers

Building Collaborative Relationships with Families



Age Group: Infant and Toddler

CLASS Alignments: Emotional & Behavioral Support (Positive Climate)

CDA Area: 4 Strategies to establish productive relationships with families; 6-Communication

Early childhood professionals build partnerships with families as an important strategy to promote healthy child development. Building effective relationships with families is the foundation for these partnerships. This session supports relationship building with families by helping professionals to define and practice active listening skills, explore the parallel process, and the importance of reflection. Participants will learn strategies for establishing effective relationships with families.

Classroom Transitions



Age Group: Toddler, Preschool

CLASS Alignments: Pre-K CLASS, Classroom Organization, Productivity, Behavior Management, Toddler CLASS, Behavior Guidance

CDA Areas: 1- To establish and maintain a safe, healthy, learning environment, 3- Supporting children's social and emotional development, 8- Understanding principles of child development and learning

Transitions can be a stressful time in your classroom, and sometimes they can provoke challenging behaviors. Attend this session to learn new strategies to promote smooth transitions between classroom activities and routines. During this workshop, you will reflect on transitions in your own classroom and develop plans for how to use transitions to promote learning

Creative Curriculum Infant\Toddler



Age Group: Infant, Toddler

This workshop will serve as an introduction for teachers using the Infant/Toddler Creative Curriculum.

Creative Curriculum Pre-K



Age Group: Preschool

This workshop will serve as an introduction for teachers using the Pre-K Creative Curriculum.

Food Safety & Sanitation\Emergency Preparedness



Age Group: Infant, Toddler and Preschool

CDA Area: 1-Health and Safety ; 5-Effective program operation:

Prepare your early learning center or family child care home for disasters or general emergencies. The first tool of preparedness is having a plan before emergencies arise.

Food Safety & Sanitation: Training meets the OPH requirements for Health & Safety and is required for all staff involved with food services. Help control the spread of germs and sickness in your care environment by diligently employing methods taught in this session. At the end of the training participants will be able to demonstrate all steps in proper hand washing, verbalize the difference between disinfection and sanitation, appreciate the importance of proper food handling and understand the dangers of not taking food safety precautions and proper sanitation.

Frog Street Infant\Toddler



Age Group: Infant, Toddler

This workshop will serve as an introduction for teachers using the Infant/Toddler Frog Street curriculum.

Frog Street Pre-K



Age Group: Preschool

This workshop will serve as an introduction for teachers using the Pre-K Frog Street Curriculum.

Language is Key



Age Group: Infant, Toddler, Preschool

CDA Areas: 2- Advancing children's physical activity, 8- Understanding Principles of child development and learning

Learn new strategies for creating language-rich conversations with children! This workshop will incorporate background knowledge, exploration, and real-life application in the art of conversing with children. Together, we will cover the research on oral language development and use Language Modeling indicators to describe best practices for language and vocabulary development. We'll also practice ways to create engaging conversations throughout the classroom.

Resources for Early Childhood Professionals

Professional Development Credentials

Louisiana Pathways

<https://pathways.nsula.edu>

(800) 245-8925

Louisiana Pathways is Louisiana's career development system for early childhood professionals. Pathways verifies training and credentials for teachers and directors, which is a key part of getting your School Readiness Tax Credits. Pathways also provides scholarships for CDAs, as well as college degrees!

Frequently Asked Questions about Ancillary Certificates

<http://bit.ly/2ahykjm>

Beginning on June 30, 2019, all lead teachers in publicly-funded centers (Type III) will be required to have a current Early Childhood Ancillary Teaching Certificate as a minimum credential. Read this F.A.Q. for valuable information about how to get your ancillary certificate.

Council for Professional Recognition

www.cdacouncil.org

202-265-9090

The Council for Professional Recognition administers the Child Development Associate® (CDA) National Credentialing Program. The Council awards and renews CDAs. Visit their website to learn more about the requirements for attaining a CDA or to find a Professional Development Specialist to verify your educational documentation and observe your teaching practice for the CDA credential.

Useful Early Childhood Web Sites & Resources

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu>

CSEFEL offers teachers, trainers and coaches information on how to promote young children's social and emotional development. Teachers might be especially interested in their "book nook," which gives you ideas on how you can use specific books to promote social-emotional development. They also have downloadable resources, such as feeling charts and solutions kits, to help build children's social-emotional development.

Zero to Three

www.zerotothree.org

Zero to Three offers a broad range of information for teachers and parents about early learning and early development. They have a big selection of videos and their series, *Your baby's development: age based tips from birth to 36 months*, would make great handouts in your program's "Parent Corner."

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ccp>

"Learn the Signs. Act Early." is a campaign by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase public awareness of the full range of child development. They have some excellent free materials on developmental milestones for you to share with families. All of their publications are available for free download, and many can be mailed to you as hard copies. They even have tip sheets you can use to help you talk to parents when you have concerns about a child's development.

1340 West Tunnel Blvd, Suite 550 Houma La, 70360

Phone: 985.446.8330 Fax: 985.876.6464

Register for more seminars at <https://training.agendaforchildren.org>

www.agendaforchildren.org