



# What's Buzzing?

Oberlin Early  
Childhood Center



September 2014

## WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE?

Over the past five years, the OECC Food Program has made great strides in serving more fresh and nutritious meals to the children we serve and our staff. Over the next three years we will expand our focus on providing healthy meals by supporting staff and families in embracing a healthy lifestyle. Our first step is to solicit support from staff, parents, and community members in forming a committee to develop a plan for how we will do this. If you have experience that could support us and can commit to a couple of hours a month please contact the Executive Director, Jennifer Harris, at [440-774-8193](tel:440-774-8193) or e-mail her at [jharris@oberlinearlychildhood.org](mailto:jharris@oberlinearlychildhood.org).

## TEACHER PARENT CONNECTIONS

As early childhood educators, we value the relationship built between families and caregivers. Teachers learn from family members and family members learn from teachers. The relationship makes sense because both are concerned about each child's growth and development. When teachers and families work in the best interest of the child, it is the child that benefits!

All of our teachers have e-mail addresses ([first initial last name@oberlinearlychildhood.org](mailto:first_initial_last_name@oberlinearlychildhood.org)) in which they are able to communicate with you. This is often a fast and easy form of communication. However, the best form of communication is face to face. A family member may request to have a conference with a teacher to discuss successes, challenges, or something at home that may be impacting the child. Drop off and pick up are not always the best time to hold a conference. And don't wait until parent teacher conferences to do this! The earlier you request a conference the more effective we can be as a team in promoting your child's growth and development.

Parents are always welcome to visit the site at any time; just discuss this with your child's teacher to make sure it is in the best interest of your child. Toddlers often don't do well when parents pop in to visit. It makes for a challenging day have to say "goodbye" all over again. Our teachers also have thought of how they will communicate their expectations and what happens on a daily basis in the best way they see fit. Knowing these expectations and how they communicate will build upon your relationship with them. Talk with your child's teacher to learn more.

## OUR VISION

All children thrive!

## OUR MISSION

Nurturing the healthy growth of young children

## OUR VALUES

### Respect

We view respect as the foundation of every relationship.

### Diversity

We see diversity as recognizing and valuing the richness of differences.

### Collaboration

We collaborate to strengthen and optimize opportunities to achieve common goals.

### Access

We are committed to enhancing access to opportunities for children, families, and staff.

### Creativity

We believe that creativity empowers individuals and groups to reach their potential.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Harris, Ph.D.