



September 3rd, 2021

Here is a quick note of Courtyard happenings and reminders!

- Staffing – still a challenge. Looking for at LEAST 4 solid teachers to help with our under 2 classrooms at Oscar. Also looking for several more teachers to cover days off. Many of our staff have offered to help on their days off. Many of our part time teachers are helping us by working more/different hours. We are paying a higher rate of pay for those hours. This is a good short term solution, still advertising heavily for long term full time employees.
- Volunteers – we now have 5 parents/grandparents that have volunteered to be on call in the case that we get in a bind. Courtyard is paying for background screenings for those on this list. Building this on call list may help us if we have a teacher that suddenly needs to leave (suddenly ill, find out close contact, or other reason). We have always had “extra teachers for this in the past. We no longer have extras. If anyone else would like to be on this list, please contact Christa so we can discuss and get your background screening set up.
- Backup Plan – Please continue to have a backup plan should we ever need to send kids home. If we have to quarantine a string of teachers, or if an illness runs through the center, we will not have teachers for every classroom all day. Be prepared.
- Communication – If parents have an out of the normal pickup, or a change in food requirements, or any other very important piece of information, parents MUST bring that information to the office. Telling our teachers and not telling the office leaves a lot of room for failure should that teacher leave or be moved to another room. When in doubt, communicate with Candace and Christa.
- Marking Items – Because we have a higher-than-normal flux of teachers in classrooms, we are reminding parents to mark everything that they can think of, and don't bring items into the building that are super important. Inconsistency causes things to get lost/misplaced. Having items marked before they get to the building helps us help you.
- Fall photos – We will not be having fall photos. Partially due to the photographer's unavailability and partly due to our lack of staff to handle the actual photo day.
- Please remember to let us know in advance of planned absences.
- During this challenging time, Candace and I are mainly focused on being appreciative of what we have. We have a LOT of amazing staff and teachers, that show up each day focused on providing good care for your kiddos. We have a TON of amazing families that are “in this with us”. We are so incredibly blessed to have what we have. *THANK YOU.*