



THE WEEKLY MEMO

2021-2022, Issue #30 - May 16, 2022- Editors: Angie Salazar & Ashley Clayton

Mission Statement

Southern Oregon Head Start prepares all children and their families for success in school and throughout life.

INSIDE

- 2-4) Staff Appreciation at ABC indoor play area
- 5-6) LISTO in the news! 9-11) Merlin Head Start
- 7-8) Pictures of new ABC-B

Meetings and Trainings

May 16—Monday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Weekly Team Meeting, Virtual
- 9:00-12:00 Education Support Check In Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Rm.
- 10:00-11:30 Ed Department Meeting, TEAMS
- 1:00-3:00 0-5 Site Managers Meeting, TEAMS

May 17—Tuesday

- 9:00-11:00 Directors' Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Rm. (off wk)
- 10:00-10:45 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL

May 18 —Wednesday

- 9:00-10:30 Department Directors Meeting, MO Blue Conf. Rm.
- 1:00-2:00 Onboarding Updates, TEAMS

May 19 —Thursday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Dept. Meeting, TEAMS
- 12:00-1:30 Cohort 1-ED, IN PERSON
- 12:00-1:00 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL
- 2:00-3:30 Cohort 2-SM, IN PERSON
- 2:30-3:30 Health & PFCE Meeting, PFCE Office

May 20 —Friday

- Child Guidance/ MH Updates
- Spring Checkpoints due
- 8:00-3:00 Union Negotiations, Library/ Kathy's office
- 8:00-10:00 Education Planning
- 10:00-11:30 Center Meeting, TEAMS
- 12:00-1:30 Cohort 3-SM, IN PERSON
- 1:00-2:30 Safety Committee Teams Meeting
- 2:00-3:30 Cohort 4-HT, IN PERSON

May 23 —Monday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Weekly Team Meetings, VIRTUAL
- 10:00-11:30 ED Dept. Meeting, TEAMS

May 24—Tuesday

- 9:00-11:00 Directors' Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Room
- 1:00-2:30 Management Team Meeting
- 2:30-8:00 PC Meeting (tentatively) Blue Building Conf. Rm.
- 5:30-8:30 Board Meeting, Library
- 5:30-8:30 Policy Council & Board Session, Blue Building Conf. Rm.

May 25—Wednesday

- 5:30-6:00 Parent Work Shop-Spanish

May 26 —Thursday

- HS HB Ends
- Part-day Ends
- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Dept. Meeting, TEAMS

May 27—Friday

- Goal Tracking Sheets Due
- Spring Staffing Due
- 8:00-10:00 Education Planning
- 9:00-11:30 FS Meeting, Foothills



Weekly Memo Submission

Please send your PDF's, jpegs, and text to

Angie Salazar-

asalazar@socfc.org

By Wednesday @ 12 p.m.

Staff Appreciation at ABB

The crew at ABB would like to thank SM Katherine & AA Amber for putting together a wonderful week long staff appreciation event for us!

One of the days (with the help of our awesome cookers) we had a nacho bar with ALL the fixins'. Fun decor filled the room and we were able to sit together, talk, laugh, and fellowship with each other (just like old times!) Pictured on the right is Sr. Lozano's Agua Fresca we got to enjoy for Thirsty Thursday!



ABB Staff Appreciation Cont.



We got to enjoy donut day and ice cream day!



POPCORN & PAJAMAS

To end our week we had a popcorn and pajama party! We each recieved a small little gift with a personalized note from our SM as well. The ABB team enjoyed this week a lot, and we sure did feel appreciated!



Listo Family Literacy is in the news!

Listo was one of 7 programs around the State of Oregon to be featured in the Collin's Foundation's 2020 & 2021 Annual Report—Stories of Change, Creativity and Resilience.



Imagine Black Futures

Imagining the alternatives

2020 Grant: \$100,000 through The Collins Foundation Black Equity Movement (BEM) initiative to support general operations and additional community services.

2021 Grant: \$10,000 for technical assistance from the BEM initiative. \$1,000 grant for participation in The Collins Foundation-hosted community engagement sessions to collect input from community partners about the BEM initiative.



"We are going beyond just saying we serve the Black community to really defining who's impacted most and how we can focus on creating solutions together," says Joy Alise Davis, executive director of Imagine Black Futures. "It requires a lot of patience, understanding and holding each other accountable, then moving forward, learning from our mistakes and being better."

Imagine Black Futures (formerly Portland African American Leadership Forum) is an all-inclusive, Black-led organization for Portland-based community members interested in advocating for a city where people of African descent enjoy the rights, resources and recognition to be a thriving, resilient and connected community. Imagine Black Futures helps the Black community imagine the alternatives they deserve and build their political participation and leadership to achieve those alternatives.

"Like most Black organizations, locally and nationally, we are typically under-resourced," says Davis. "We know this work is a marathon. We value sustainability. We want to be here for the long haul and have the systems in place to successfully engage



Listo

Dreaming dreams bigger than fears

2021 Grant: \$35,000 in COVID-19 emergency funds to create hybrid and distance learning options for program participants.



"Many of our Listo families have come to a new country," says Patty Gutiérrez. "They have big dreams. And those dreams are bigger than their fears."

Listo Family Literacy, a program of Southern Oregon Head Start, provides culturally specific learning opportunities for Latinx families in Jackson County. Infants, toddlers, preschoolers and older children, ages 6-15, learn while their parents study English and adult basic education classes in Spanish.

The pandemic forced Listo to close its doors in March 2020. Teachers were laid off. The remaining staff surveyed parents to find out how they could help. "Every family was at a different level of need," says Gutiérrez, "but they wanted to learn."

Listo staff connected with local partners to supply food boxes. They created a distance-learning service model and new program components. But in September, just as registration for the new online classes began, the "once-in-a-generation" Alameda fire burned through the community. A third of Listo families, including Listo staff, were affected.

"We just did our best to provide for them," Gutiérrez says. "It was hard for everyone." Listo continued to plan learning options. By November, they were able to offer distance-learning as well as a new online support group.

Many families had no home, no income and lacked services. "I'll be darned if people didn't show up for their classes and meetings on their cell phones," says Rachelle Schaff, Listo development director. "They wanted to be there. They wanted to connect." Listo now offers loaner iPads for families.

Distance learning continues with story times and joyful check-ins for infants and toddlers. Preschool-age kids prepare for kindergarten. Older kids get individual homework help from teachers - all of it online. Parents of each age group receive packets of age-appropriate learning activities and participate on the Zoom sessions with younger children. Parents learn, as well, in literacy, wellness and mental health sessions.

Wraparound services remain, including a parent-led monthly food box program and a bilingual family advocate for fire survivors. "We created our plan," says Gutiérrez. "But what we learned is that any plan can be different tomorrow."

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Pictures of the new Indoor play/ recreational area at ABC-B!!

Photos curtesy of: Eric Russo



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Last Saturday, the Merlin team and families participated in the Magical Merlin Parade. The theme was "Moving forward with love and kindness." The children and families worked with the center team to create a beautiful float. We are so thankful to all who participated and supported our Merlin team!

Submitted by: Amy Larson

We won the Grand Marshall award for the whole parade!!!



More pictures!



