

Pennsylvania's Promise for Children

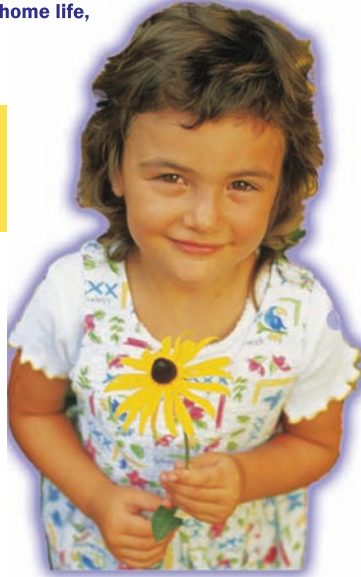
We are proud to announce that Pennsylvania has adopted a new campaign to ensure a positive future for every child. Please contact Alishia Sullivan, Community Engagement Coordinator at 570-723-0520 for more information.

Quality early learning and child development play a major role in a child's future success in school and in life. Young children learn best when they have proper health and nutrition, a safe and stable family and home life, and activities that stimulate creativity, curiosity, and all the skills they will need to succeed in school and life.

Pennsylvania's Promise for Children
Because every child is Pennsylvania's future
www.papromiseforchildren.com

Support Pennsylvania's Promise for Children:

- Sign our declaration to support Pennsylvania's Promise for Children at www.papromiseforchildren.com
- Learn simple ways that you can support learning in the young children in your life.
- Talk to child care programs in your neighborhood, about Keystone STARS.
- Ask your employer to provide resources to employees on choosing quality early learning opportunities.



Looking ahead...

In the 2008-09 fiscal year our Early Care and Education committee plans to complete the following:

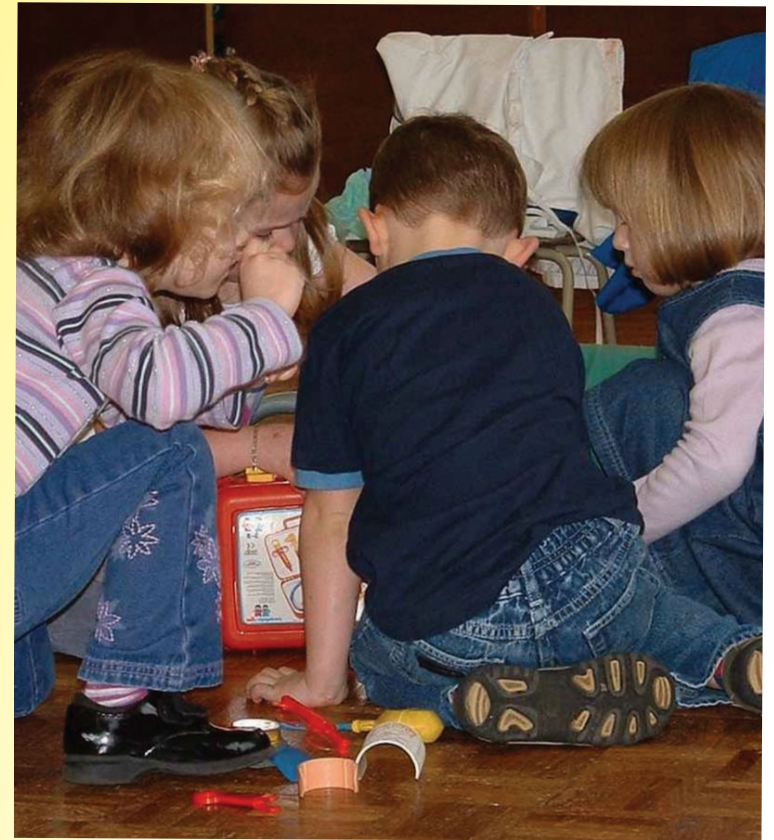
- ❖ Hold our 4th Annual Teacher Panel Discussion to increase communication among child care practitioners and area school district teachers about kindergarten transitioning;
- ❖ Provide a Transition Toolkit for child care practitioners to educate parents about what they can do to help prepare their children for kindergarten.
- ❖ Educate the community about quality early care initiatives with Keystone STARS and PA Pre-K Counts
- ❖ Establish a strong media outreach including the newspaper and radio to highlight the quality early learning programs available in Tioga County.



Community Report Card

2007-08

Community Engagement and Early Care & Education



Partnership Mission: Providing innovative leadership for improving the health and quality of life of individuals and communities in Tioga County

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

The 2007 - 2008 year has been exciting one for the Tioga Early Care and Education Team (TECET). I have had the privilege of serving as the chairperson for TECET and working beside of a group of dedicated team members from across Tioga County. They each possess a "shared vision" which recognizes that Early Childhood Education needs to be a priority for our community and that we need to give our children the best possible start in life.

Throughout the Community Report Card, you will read about the activities the committee completed in 2007 -2008 that support the "shared vision" of TECET. These activities were designed to:

- educate the community about issues in early childhood education,
- promote the importance of high quality programs,
- foster relationships with parents, government, businesses, and schools in support of early learning,
- maintain linkages between school districts and early learning practitioners to facilitate successful kindergarten transitions,
- and participate in parent/public awareness days.

With forward thinking, continued support, and a shared vision, we will continue to help families and children prepare for success in school and beyond.

Sandy Button, Bradford Tioga Head Start

We are fortunate to have a variety of members from various organizations across our county serve on our Tioga Early Care and Education Team. We sincerely appreciate their ongoing collaboration and dedication.

Tioga County Department of Human Services
Child Care Information Services (CCIS)
Tioga County Assistance Office
Northern Tioga School District

BLaSTIU #17
Bradford-Tioga Head Start
Southern Tioga School District
Wellsboro Area School District

For more TECET information:

Alishia Sullivan
 Community Engagement Coordinator
 Tioga Early Care and Education Team
 Tioga County Partnership for Community Health

5 East Avenue, PO Box 812
 Wellsboro, PA 16901
 (570) 723-0520 phone
 (570) 723-0522 fax
 www.tiogapartners.org

KEYSTONE STARS

STAR 1

Teresa A. Austin
 83 Pearl Street
 Wellsboro, 16901

Tracey D. Cimorelli
 87 Mt. Zion Ext.
 Wellsboro, 16901

Dawn Beckman
 12264 Route 6
 Wellsboro, 16901

Kathleen Hemenway
 207 Parkhurst Street
 Blossburg, 16912

Annette Cleary Group Day Care Home
 14 McInroy Street
 Wellsboro, 16901

Deborah Calkins Group Day Care Home
 21 Extension Street
 Mansfield, 16933

Wellsboro Montessori Children's Center
 Queen and Main Street
 Wellsboro, 16901

Westfield Child Development Center, Inc.
 602 East Main Street
 Westfield, 16950

Michele Rieppel Family Home
 544 Mulberry Hill Road
 Mansfield, 16933

**Based on data provided by NE Key 5/2008.*





KINDERGARTEN CALENDARS

Tioga Early Care and Education Team (TECET)

The Tioga Early Care and Education Team acts as the steering committee for our community engagement outreach efforts which focus on promoting quality early care and education and works on kindergarten transitioning topics. Our team consists of school district administration, kindergarten and preschool teachers, and others involved in the early education community.

To combine the resources and services of the community, child and parents to educate and prepare children for success in school and life.

Kindergarten Calendars

This year "Kindergarten Here I Come" calendars were distributed through school districts, CCIS, Bradford-Tioga Head Start, day care sites, and community events including the Children's Health Fair, Community Day sponsored by the Tioga County Local Interagency Coordinating Council, and the Tioga County Fair.

The purpose of the calendars is to educate parents on ways to work with their children to help prepare them for school.

The calendars are filled with fun activities that provide a foundation for positive and happy future school experiences. The activities are based on the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards and are very user-friendly.



KEYSTONE STARS

STARS stands for Standards, Training, Assistance, Resources, and Support and is an initiative of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. The importance of this initiative is to help early learning programs provide quality services to children. STARS is a completely voluntary program in which licensed child care programs can participate in a system of ongoing quality improvement.

There are different STAR levels: Start with STARS, STAR 1, STAR 2, STAR 3, STAR 4. In order to advance through each of these levels a site must meet a number of different criteria. We are fortunate to have sites in Tioga County which promote the best learning environment and safe setting through the STARS program. Below you will find a list of STARS facilities.*

STAR 4

Bradford-Tioga Head Start Wellsboro Center

29 East Avenue
Wellsboro, 16901

Scott's Early Learning Center

Academy Street,
Mansfield University
Mansfield, 16933

Stepping Stones Preschool

30 East Wellsboro Street
Mansfield, 16933

STAR 3

Toddler University Daycare and Preschool, Inc.

244 Main Street
Blossburg, 16912

Wanita M. Miller

98 North Schodac Road
Mansfield, 16933

Eileen Thompson

1897 Roseville Road
Mansfield, 16933

STAR 2

Penny Heffner's Day Care Center

23 Lake Street
Tioga 16946

Brenda Baker

2744 Buckwheat Hollow Road
Lawrenceville, 16929

Tracy M. Catherman

9 Grant Street
Wellsboro, 16901

C.U.M.C. Child Care Center

6 Franklin Street
Lawrenceville 16929

Joyful Happenings Day Care

44 West Elmira Street
Mansfield, 16933

Covington Community Day Care

2150 N. Williamson Road
Covington, 16917

Ransom Day Care

55 Dam Overlook Lane
Lawrenceville, 16929



The Southern Tioga School District was awarded PA Pre-K Counts grant funding for the 2007-08 school year. PA Pre-K Counts is high quality pre-kindergarten education for 3 and 4 year olds in Pennsylvania which is free to families.

What you can expect from a PA Pre-K Counts classroom:

- ❖ Highly qualified teachers with expertise educating young children;
- ❖ Use of a curriculum that helps your child grow academically and socially;
- ❖ Regular review of your child's progress to help choose activities that are best for your child;
- ❖ Help in preparing you and your child for the transition into kindergarten;
- ❖ Offers a small class size with no more than 20 students per teacher and one aide so your child can have plenty of one-on-one time with the teachers.

Participating PA Pre-K Facilities

Covington Community Day Care
 2380 Canoe Camp Creek Road
 Covington PA 16917

Joyful Happening Daycare
 44 West Elmira Street
 Mansfield PA 16933

Mansfield Area Nursery School
 North Academy Street
 Mansfield PA 16933

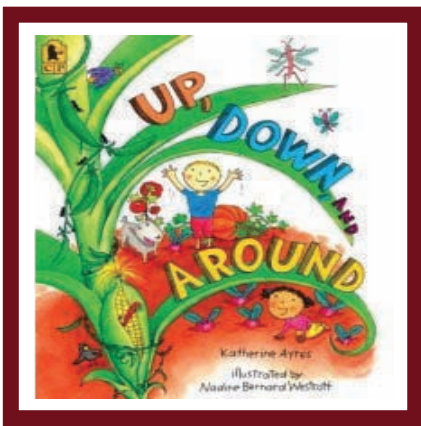
Scott's Early Learning Center
 123 Wilson Street
 Mansfield PA 16933

Stepping Stones Preschool
 50 East Wellsboro Street
 Mansfield PA 16933

Toddler University Preschool & Day Care
 133 Hanibal Street Blossburg PA 16912
 244 Main Street Blossburg PA 16912

Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child 2008

The Tioga Early Care and Education Team worked on coordinating PA One Book readings at 10 different day care sites in our community. Well over 100 children were read the book Up, Down, and Around by Katherine Ayres. Guest readers from all across Tioga County participated in the event by visiting preschool age children at their day care centers and reading to them.



PA One Book is a reading initiative that takes place each year during the Week of the Young Child (April 13-19, 2008) and aims to promote early literacy by reaching as many children as possible.

Keystone STARS Appreciation Dinner, June 2008

In order to show our appreciation for the Keystone STARS child care facilities in Tioga County, the Early Care and Education Team held a Keystone STARS Appreciation Dinner at Timeless Destination in Wellsboro, PA. Guests were served their meals complete with a dessert while listening to a short presentation by Brooks Eldredge-Martin, Executive Director of the Bradford County Regional Arts Council. Mr. Eldredge-Martin spoke about his program, housed in Bradford County, which promotes the arts in early learning. His organization feels strongly about using the arts to increase school readiness skills.

At the end of the evening, guests were presented a certificate and small gift on behalf of the Northeast Regional Key and the Tioga Early Care and Education Team to recognize their involvement in Keystone STARS program.

