

FRAGA Gab



From The Director's Desk

By Paula Bacon, Director

I enjoyed seeing everyone at In-service in February and hearing stories about how you've seen the 5 languages in use at work and even taking it outside the work environment. I wanted to share some of the survey results with you on the success of the training:

82.26% said they have seen a change in the way their supervisor and/or coworkers show appreciation

89.60% said they have seen a change within themselves regarding showing appreciation to others

85.37% said they felt we are making progress toward changing the culture of our program

85.48% said they plan to make this a regular practice in the workplace

I also want to share a couple of the comments with you as well.

"I think the greatest thing I've seen come out of this training is people appreciating others they normally don't appreciate or necessarily care for in day to day work. The reaction is priceless every time. This initiative has knocked down walls of resentment and opened us all to living more intentionally. Thank you so much for bringing this to us!"

"I was words of affirmation. One of the staff members wrote me an entire page of how she thought I was a great team member and how she learned from me over the past 6 years. She gave it to me when I was having a really bad morning and that made my day better and I cried."

I hope that you will all continue to think of our languages and to show appreciation to each other. It DOES make a difference and together we help each individual feel valued and an important part of our team.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



**Family Resource Agency
of North Georgia
Head Start/Early Head Start
Pre-K Program**

We Build GREAT Children!

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Melissa's Page

By Melissa Metcalf, Asst. Director

Mountain View Pre-K Visit. Congratulations to the Mountain View staff! Judy Blasengame, Bright From The Start Pre-K consultant, said in her email "I had a wonderful visit at Mountain View. Brooke and her staff did an excellent job with meeting all requirements for Pre-K!"

Self Assessment. March brings rain and it also brings our annual Self-Assessment. Our Self-Assessment teams are comprised of Agency staff, Board members as well as Policy Council Parent and Community representatives. These teams will be visiting every center and conducting self-assessment checks on every classroom and every playground. Each team then inputs their collected data into a database so the results can be reviewed and analyzed. This "self-monitoring" is another Performance Standard that is required by the Office of Head Start and helps us maintain a high level of quality.

QUALITY CORNER

Spring Packets are underway! Please remember to refer to the ITERS and ECERS Environment Rating Scales and "All About" books for the Packet C visit. Remember to send in pictures and activities for the Resource Website, we need your submissions!

And just a point to ponder:

"The future of the World is in your classroom today!"

-Ivan Welton Fitzwater

-Submitted by Betsy Taggart, QM,
Brandy Young, QM
Karen Mussared, QM



The following centers recently had **CITATION-FREE** license visits:

Dade, Tiger Creek, South Walker, Chattooga, Dalton Heritage, Battlewood HS/EHS, and Mountain View.

Thank you for working together as a team every day to provide the highest quality services to our children and families.

We are so proud of our EXCELLENT staff!!





You
Are
So...



Angie Mathis and Sheila Walston at Dalton Heritage, were BUSTED on 2/28/17 for doing an AWESOME job in their classroom. After coming in from outside, they followed the appropriate Hand Washing Procedures and had each child wash their hands before sitting on the carpet for songs and finger-plays. When they couldn't get the music to play, they didn't miss a beat and started engaging the children in conversation and singing songs without the music.

Thank you Angie and Sheila for being AWESOME at what you do!

~Submitted by: Michelle Howard, CDM

March Employee of the Month: Pat Wimpy



Employee of the Month for March 2017 is **Pat Wimpy, EHS Teacher at Valley Point HS/EHS.**

"Pat has been helping in the HS classroom due to staffing issues and has been a great help. She is always willing to help anyone and goes above and beyond her job responsibilities.

"With the Assistant Teacher leaving, and the hiring of a new teacher, Pat said that she would stay in the classroom to help the teacher until an Assistant Teacher was hired".



Caught in the Act!



Amanda Leverrett, Family Services Manager at Admin. (photo, left). Amanda is our "Adopt-A-Center" for Cloud Springs. She is putting "Appreciation in the Workplace" into practice. This morning, Amanda brought apple fritters from The Donut Place and everyone's favorite soda. This act of appreciation really made our day at Cloud Springs.



Rebecca Williams, Food Services Asst. Manager/Cook at Dade HS/EHS (photo, left). Regardless of how busy the kitchen staff is or how crazy a day has been, Rebecca always makes time to come and check on the teachers throughout the day when the floater isn't available to give us a restroom break. It is GREATLY appreciated!



Ruthann Aguilar, HS Assistant Teacher at Pioneer HS (photo, left). Ruthann helps out whenever and wherever needed at Pioneer. She will work in the kitchen or in either classroom. She has even volunteered to go to BW when they were short staffed. She is a team player and always does it with a smile on her face. Thank you Ruthann for all you do!



Phyllis Taylor, Administrative Assistant at Admin. (photo, left). Phyllis assists OPS in organization documentation and tracking. She always helps in any way she can. She never complains and does her job with a smile on her face. She has stepped in to help AP during absences to insure PO's are completed.



Maveis Brooks, EHS Teacher Floater at Whitfield HS/EHS/Pre-K (photo, left). Mavis always has a smile and a kind word for everyone. She has been helping out in HS since we have been short staffed. Along with all of her job duties, she still finds time to help her co-workers with Art projects, giving ideas for upcoming lesson plans, and sharing books and supplies. Maveis is a joy to have at our center!



Connie Davis, Cook/Custodian at Dade HS/EHS (photo, left). Connie always makes time to check on the teachers throughout the day when the floater isn't available to give us a restroom break, regardless of how busy the kitchen staff is. We appreciate it!



Megan Hernandez, HS Teacher at Pioneer HS (photo, left). Pioneer has been short staffed since October. Megan's Assistant Teacher has been helping out in another classroom since October. Megan has not complained at all and continues to smile daily and always gives 100%. She even volunteered go to Battlewood to help out when they were short staffed. Thanks Megan for always being a team player.



Family Resource Agency
of North Georgia

403 Chickamauga Ave, Suite 201
Rossville, GA 30741

Phone: 706-861-0105
Fax: 706-861-3627

ENROLLMENT:
enrollment@fragahs.com

VISIT US ONLINE AT:
www.fragahs.com



FRAGA HEAD START



Family Matters

By Talisyn Ridley, Family Services Coordinator

March means new enrollment applications have been sent out and families are calling ready to come in and fill out an application. Family Services is going to be busy recruiting for the 2017/2018 school year.

One thing that FSSs are focusing on right now is working with our Head Start families on their goals that they have set throughout the year. FSS work with all families and set a Family Partnership Agreement. There are steps that the families make and steps that the FSSs make to help them reach their goal.

Some examples of a goal could be:

- Families wanting to save money.
- Families working on getting their GED.
- Families learning how to work on a budget.
- Families saving for a family vacation.

What is YOUR goal for 2017?

PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Rock Spring HS, Classroom 1 sent home an activity to promote Parent Involvement (photos pictured).

The parents and children really enjoyed making their Igloos. These masterpieces were completed after discussing different types of houses, Winter Weather, and Winter/Polar Animals.

