



Oahe Child Development Center

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Early Head Start & Head Start News

www.oahechild.com

March/April 2011

WOW! Way to Go!

The Oahe Child Development Center was very proud to have so many people recognized at the annual South Dakota Head Start Association Parent Awards and Staff Recognition Banquet held in Sioux Falls April 15, 2011. These people were recognized for their dedicated years of services to Head Start:

- Misti Chester, Jones County Combination Option Teacher, 5 years
- Charity Houlton-Oien, Pierre Center Based Teacher, 5 years
- Danelle Youngbluth, Disabilities/Transition Specialist, 5 years
- Karla Baus, Fiscal Human Resource Assistant, 10 years
- Lauriann Fuhrman, Pierre Center Based Teacher, 10 years
- Mary Daley, Disabilities/Transition Coordinator, 15 years
- Pat Hoffman, Program Director, 15 years

Scott Louis was recognized as the South Dakota Head Start Parent of the Year. Scott has had two children in our Head Start program. He served on the Policy Council for two years and volunteered his time fundraising for OCDC. He now serves on the OCDC's Board of Directors and is active in his children's PTA groups.



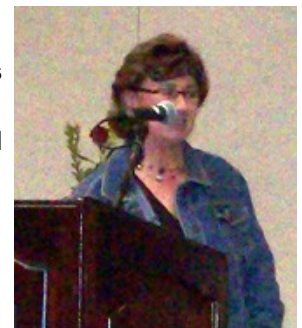
Kay Hammond was awarded the Susan Smith Award. This award honors an individual who has greatly impacted Head Start in South Dakota. These individuals may be volunteers or professionals in the realm of Head Start.

Kay has dedicated her life to Early Childhood Learning and has been involved in Head Start since 1967. She was the first director when Head Start opened in Pierre. At that time, Pierre Head Start was a two month summer program. In 1972, a group of parents incorporated as Oahe Child Development in order to get a 9 month Head Start program going. Kay was a part of this outstanding group of parents. Kay was also the Head Start Director during Oahe Child Development's first year, of the 9 month program.

In 1977, Kay was asked to serve on the Oahe Child Development Board and is currently serving in this capacity today.

Annette Zabel, a teacher at the Pierre Center, received the South Dakota Head Start Association Staff Scholarship. Annette currently has an Associate's Degree and is working towards her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She advised "everyone to further their education"!

Congratulations to Scott, Annette, and Kay! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our program and to Head Start. Without you our pro-



Recruitment: Head Start is taking applications for the 2011-2012 Program Year. Children need to be 3 years old by September 1st. If you know of any interested families, please have them contact the Head Start Office at 224-6603 for an application.

Class B

Miss Martha & Miss Karen

We have been busy in Class B! Along with numbers, letters & sounds, colors & shapes, we learned about dinosaurs; we classified them as either meat eaters or plant eaters, if they walked on 2 legs or 4 legs and the kids even had a "nice" and a "not nice" category.



Since spring has started, we have learned about life on the farm, the different types of animals that live on a farm and what the babies are called, i.e.; a

baby pig is called a piglet. In early April we talked about spring & planting. We planted some Zinnia's and will learn how to take care of plants. We will have a couple of weeks to watch them grow. Each child will get a turn at watering them. Our next theme is bugs & insects, which will be a very exciting theme with a lot of fun activities involved.

As we are quickly coming to the end of the school year, we want to remind you that the last day of school is May 12th. The end of the year carnival is also scheduled for the evening of May 12th from 6:30-8:00. Please come & enjoy some fun & games with your family & the OCDC staff!



Class 1

Miss Marie & Miss Brittany

Got milk?



Class 1 donned their milk-o-taches Thursday morning during a visit by the Nursing Students, following a talk about healthy snacks, Class 1 also had apples and a very tasty fruit vegetable drink.



The Baade family Steven, Darcy and daughters Anastyn and Nevaeh constructed cardboard race cars during the April Parent Meeting following the 5:30 supper at Head Start.

Highmore
Miss Natalie & Miss Susan

Highmore Head Start children in Miss Natalie and Miss Susan's room have had a wonderful year. We are finishing up our year celebrating spring, along with a unit on our families at Home and Work.



We walked over to a farm and got to see baby lambs, sheep, horses, cats and a bull! Our journals for Animated Literacy are a source of pride because we have become readers and writers. This particular class also like to read and investigate informational books together, especially dinosaur books.



Our Kindergarten-bound children are going to visit their "big school" soon and we all are looking

forward to our End-of-Year Picnic on May 16th.

Happy Spring to all of you from the Highmore Head Starters.

EHS Home Visitor
Miss Kristin

This month we have been working on getting ready for spring. At our social on April 4th we made butterflies. We used many different types of materials from paint to tissue paper. At our other social on April 19th we talked about how to stay safe now that we are into spring. We colored wooden cars with markers. While we did this we used this opportunity to talk about how we need to be safe around driveways, streets, and cars now that it is starting to get nice outside and we are playing more and more outside!



Also, these last few months we have been working on transitions for our children who are turning three and moving to center base. During this time, we have the parents and Home Visitor come in-

to the classroom so they can see what the classroom environment is like. The children stay for part of the day and participate in the classroom routines. This helps the child and the parent get comfortable with the classroom.

What To Do With The Mad That You Feel?

Almost everyone gets mad sometimes. That is just part of being human, whether you are an adult or a child.

When do we get mad? It's usually when we feel helpless, left out, or frustrated. So it is no wonder that children get angry a lot, and angry with people who are closest to them, like parents and friends.

When young children do get angry, they sometimes scream, hit, kick or bite. It does not mean they are "bad". It is just that they don't have the words to express how they feel.

Human beings aren't born with self-control. Learning how to control ourselves is a long, hard process that we work on all through our lives.

Children learn self-control in everyday ways---when we listen and help them talk about their feelings, praise them for small moments of control, and when we offer an example by using words to talk about our angry feelings.

Making simple rules helps children develop control, for instance, "It's okay to be angry, but it's not okay to hit."

Children get scared when they are so mad that they get out of control, and they feel good when they control themselves, but sometimes they need adults to help them stay calm and control their actions. Children can be taught to express their feelings in physical ways such as dancing, playing on the playground, and pounding clay or creative ways-drawing, making up songs and stories.

Parent books that could be checked out from OCDC:

Easy To Love, Difficult to Discipline-Becky Bailey (Conscious Discipline)

There's Gotta Be a Better Way-Becky Bailey (Conscious Discipline)

Common Sense Parenting-3rd Edition-Burke, Herron and Barnes

Discipline Without Shouting or Spanking-Wyckoff and Unell

The Kazdin Method for Parenting the Defiant Child-Alan E. Kazdin, Ph.D.

Hello from Mandy and Cindy

Family/Community Specialists

Wow, the year has almost come to an end and it is time for us to start recruiting children for ages prenatal to 5. Although we always welcome new applications throughout the year, the months of April thru August is the busiest time of the year for accepting new applications due to children moving onto kindergarten and into the next option of our program. Applications are available by coming to the center, calling and request one to be sent to you, asking any staff member for one, and/or visiting our website at www.oahechild.com to print one off.

Please remember that the parent room is always available with a phone and a computer with internet access for your use. We have recently obtained new parenting resource books that you can check out for your use. If you are interested please ask to talk to Rosemarie for more information.

We have purchased a track phone so that parents can contact us by text; the number is 220-1699.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact Mandy or Cindy if needs arise or you have questions or concerns. The numbers to reach us is 224-6603, 220-1699 or e-mail us from the website www.oahechild.com. Hope that everyone has a great summer!!!!