

# February 2017



*Kaleb building a truck tower*

## State of the Center

Thank you to the families who were able to attend one of our State of the Center meetings. 75% of our families were able to attend. These meetings were set up to invite interaction between the families of TLC-ELC and the Board of Directors and to let the families know important information about our center.

Julio Vargas (Board of Directors member and father of Penguin, Malina) presented the talk. A copy of our 2016 financials was passed out. If any family would like a copy of these, please see Barb. Julio also spoke about our accomplishments this past year, NAEYC Accreditation, Parent Aware, staff training and different community building activities.

## Our Goals for 2017

- \*Renew Parent Aware rating
- \*Start the playground upgrade
- \*Update emergency plan
- \*Be more proactive with social media
- \*Finish goals we began in 2016
  - have enough capital to get us through an emergency
  - update policies, practices and documents

Two other important points –

\*We have one opening in the Aardvark room, which costs us almost \$15,000 a year. Please tell your friends about TLC-ELC. We will also have openings in the Fall

for the Aardvark room. Your word of mouth is our best advertising.

\*The Board of Directors is also planning on adding the cost of the field trips into the cost of tuition next Fall. This won't apply to the TAC group because of the many variances in schedules. If you have any questions about what was discussed at the State of the Center please see Barb ([bwigstadt@yahoo.com](mailto:bwigstadt@yahoo.com) or 952-884-7955).

## Playground Committee

We are putting together a committee of parents who can help us with some upgrades on the playground. We will be starting out with a meeting to go over what we are looking at for the goals of this committee and the outcomes for the playground. **If you are interested in helping in this way please get a hold of Barb.** This will be a long short-term committee because the actual work should be done by the summer of 2018. Also, after the initial meeting, if you want to change your mind about helping out in this way there will be no understanding of commitment.

We need parents who can help with:

- \* evaluation of what actually needs to be done,
- \* researching to find the right companies & procedures (fencing, painting the climber, redoing the sandbox, etc)
- \* the physical work once we have a plan

Please contact Barb to find out more, or to attend the first meeting which will be sometime near the end of February.

### **Droolin Moose**

Thank you to everyone who ordered chocolate from our Droolin Moose fundraiser. We raised over \$1500! Chocolates will be available for pick up after 3:30 on February 8 at TLC ELC.

### **Family Movie Night**

Join us on Friday, February 17 for a family movie night. Put on your pj's, bring your own peanut free snack and join us in Fellowship Hall at 630 pm.

### **As a reminder:**

#### **Your child should remain home when your child:**

- Is ill enough to require one to one attention in order to be comfortable
- Has a body temperature of 100°F or above (axillary) [do NOT give your child acetaminophen or other medications to reduce fever and then bring them to the center]. **A child must be fever free for at least 24 hours before returning to the center**
- Has any communicable infectious disease such as pink eye, measles, chicken pox, mumps, strep or bronchial infections
- Has profuse, thick yellow or green nasal discharge or discharge from the eyes or ears
- Has a persistent, non-productive, excessively forceful, or 'barking' cough that interferes with their program day
- Has an intestinal disorder accompanied by nausea, diarrhea, or vomiting. To prevent the outbreak of gastro-intestinal disease in the center, all children and staff with diarrhea are excluded from the facility. DO NOT bring your child to the center if your child has diarrhea or vomiting, regardless of the cause. Your child cannot return to the center for 24 hours following the last episode.

### **Hand Washing**

We have asked that all families have their children wash their hands when they first arrive at TLC. There is a sign on the front door to remind you. This is critically important, especially now with all of the strains of different diseases that are going around. It seems that this mild weather has encouraged the coughs, strep, flu, colds, etc. that the children and the staff (and many family members) have been fighting. Handwashing is one of the first lines of defense against these.

### **Box Tops Challenge**

Keep your eyes open for our February Box Tops Challenge...coming soon!

### **Earn money for your child's field trips**

Did you know TLC ELC will split the profits earned through SCRIP purchases with you? You can use the money you earn through this fundraiser to help pay for your child's field trip costs or put towards your tuition costs. Last year Katie and Barb each made about \$300 in profits for TLC and the same for themselves. SCRIP orders can be turned in every Wednesday (by 10am) and your gift cards will be delivered by the following Monday. Please talk to Renee (Aardvark room) or Barb about scrip. We are looking to have more families involved in this simple, yet effective, fundraiser.

Soon, SCRIP purchases will be made even easier when we introduce the new online ordering. Please watch for more information.

### **Kids Stuff Sale (KSS)**

Remember that the Annual Kids Stuff Sale is coming up at the end of April (4/29/17). This is a great time to pass on your children's clothes, toys, games, books, outdoor play equipment, etc. that your children have outgrown and find great bargains for your current and future needs. Participating in the KSS is a fun time to be a part of a giant garage sale with friends and coming out with a profit for yourself, more things for your child (if that is what you want) and being part of a community. Please talk with Karen (KinderPlus teacher/Asst. Director) or Barb to get more details.