



Division of Early Childhood/ Head Start/Pre-K 3030 Jackson Ave Memphis, TN 38111 901 416-4214

Greetings to all stakeholders of the Early Childhood-Pre-K Family!

As we embark on the new school year, I want to express my sincere gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering support of our department. This year, we bid farewell to some esteemed faculty and staff members who are moving on to retirement, new opportunities, or different locations. Alongside this, we are thrilled to welcome new additions to our team, and I urge you to extend a warm welcome to them as they become part of our close-knit department. Your dedication and contributions ensure that our program, as well as our new teachers and staff, will flourish and thrive as part of our departmental family. As the lazy days of summer draw to a close and we transition into the invigorating season of fall, we anticipate a year filled with various challenges, obstacles, and opportunities. It is my firm belief that together, we will navigate through these experiences with resilience and determination, steadfast in our commitment to achieving our shared goals. We will draw valuable lessons from our rich history to inform our actions and decisions as we work towards shaping a promising future for all stakeholders of our department. A new school year signifies fresh beginnings, offering us the chance to set new intentions, pursue fresh goals, and embark on exciting adventures. It is a time when educators naturally seek to enhance their skills and capabilities, and the choices we make reflect our true selves. This year, our focus will be on fostering an environment of exceptional teaching, collaboration, open communication, and collective effort. Let us remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence, always mindful of the impact we have on the parents and students we serve. As we engage with individuals throughout this school year, I encourage you to consider how you can contribute to their learning, provide leadership, and leave behind a positive and lasting legacy.

Sincerely,

Divalyn L. Gordon

Divalyn Gordon, Executive Director of MSCS Early Childhood

Participant Tracks



Teachers and Childcare Center Educators

This track is for all regular education Pre-K classroom Teachers and Childcare Center Educators in classrooms of all funding sources.

Teacher Assistants and Floaters

This track is for all regular education Pre-K classroom
Teachers Assistants and Floaters in classrooms of all funding
sources.

Special Education

This track is for all staff who serve in or support Special Education Pre-K classrooms.

Family Engagement Specialists

This track is for all Family Engagement Specialists supporting any Pre-K classroom.

Please stay with your track for the entirety of the event.

Sessions are specifically designed for their appropriate tracks to ensure all staff receive required professional development.

Day 1 Schedule Originally Presented Monday, August 5th, 2024

Teachers and
Childcare Center
Educators

Teacher Assistants and Floaters

Special Education

Family Engagement
Specialists

Opening Session

Recording
PowerPoint

Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE)
Recording
PowerPoint

Case, Service, and Referral Notes

PowerPoint

Curriculum Maps and Resources

Recording
PowerPoint

Supporting
Communication in
the Classroom
Recording
PowerPoint

Attendance and Health Checks

PowerPoint

Creative Curriculum
Lesson Planning

Recording PowerPoint The Role of the Teacher Assistant

> Recording PowerPoint

Fine Motor Toolboxes Recording PowerPoint United Way Driving the Dream Intake and Referral Process

No
PowerPoint/Recording
Available

Approaches to Learning: The Mind of a Three and Four-Year-Old

Recording PowerPoint Make It, Take It Recording PowerPoint Case Management 101 (Back to Basics)

<u>PowerPoint</u>

At-a-Glance: Intro to Interactions
CLASS 2nd Edition

No PowerPoint/Recording Available

Behavior: It Starts With Us Recording PowerPoint

Parent Orientation/ Parent Meetings PowerPoint

Day 2 Schedule Originally Presented Tuesday, August 6th, 2024

Teachers and
Childcare Center
Educators

Teacher Assistants and Floaters

Special Education

Family Engagement
Specialists

CACFP Nutrition Compliance

Recording
PowerPoint

Principles of Active Supervision

Recording PowerPoint

Blasting Off to a Galaxy of Health and Safety

Recording PowerPoint

Behavior Management Strategies

Recording PowerPoint TRIAD Myth Busters:
Autism Edition
Recording
PowerPoint

Behavior Management Strategies

Recording PowerPoint

Mental Health Referral Process and Health Information

Recording PowerPoint Supporting Students
with Exceptionalities:
Safety and Security
Strategies
Recording
PowerPoint

Mental Health Referral Process and Health Information

> Recording PowerPoint

Closing Session

Recording PowerPoint

Session Descriptions

Approaches to Learning: The Mind of a Three and Four-Year-Old (presented by Debra Bowie)

This session is designed to refresh knowledge and review the characteristics and expectations of preschool children to foster better support for their learning experiences and personal well-being.

<u>At-a-Glance: Intro to Interactions CLASS 2nd Edition (presented by Maleka Daniel, Bridget Davis, and Theo Jennings)</u>

This session will provide an entry-level understanding of the CLASS framework and language and how to improve interactions with children across learning settings.

Attendance and Health Checks (presented by Elisa Griffin and Yolanda Mouzon)

This session will discuss the new process for capturing attendance and health checks.

<u>Behavior: It Starts With Us</u> (presented by Ernest Hickman, SPED Advisor Exceptional Education and Jennifer Wyatt, MA, BCBA, LBA)

Participants will understand the importance of being proactive and positive while engaging with students and will learn de-escalation strategies.

Behavior Management Strategies (presented by Pamela Boyce and Shalah Pate)

Participants will learn foundational behavior management strategies for de-escalation and overall classroom management.

<u>Blasting Off to a Galaxy of Health and Safety</u> (presented by Shonda Morrow and Flenadia Moore)

During this session, we will share the expectations of ensuring that all facilities and safety practices are understood, followed, and implemented effectively.

CACFP Nutrition Compliance (presented by Jackie Tate and Lauren Ward)

This session will cover the mandatory annual training for CACFP and Civil Rights. Information regarding meal services will also be provided.

Case Management 101-Back to Basics (presented by Dr. Alfunsia Merriwether)

This session will provide basic case management methods and how to use social work practices to integrate program requirements to meet outcomes for families.

Case, Service, and Referral Notes (presented by Elisa Griffin and Yolanda Mouzon)

This session will discuss the different types of notes and how to capture services and referrals for PRI.

Session Descriptions

Curriculum Maps and Resources (presented by Chris Spratlin)

This session will explore the MSCS Pre-K Pacing Guide and Curriculum Maps as well as other resources available on the MSCS Pre-K website.

<u>Creative Curriculum Lesson Planning</u> (presented by Chris Spratlin)

This session will offer an in-depth, real-time look at how to create your daily schedule and weekly lesson plans in the Creative Curriculum Cloud platform called SmartTeach (formerly known as MyTeachingStrategies).

<u>Fine Motor Toolboxes</u> (presented by Diane Kolesar, OT; Jennifer Daugherity, OT; Emily Smith, OUT; Lesl Cooper, OT; Jane Larkin, OT; Michelle Graham, OT; Tiffany Smith, OT: Carolynn Keane OT)

The learner will gain an understanding of the developmental progression of fine motor skills in young children and how to incorporate fine motor development into preschool learning tasks.

Make It, Take It (presented by Diane Kolesar, OT; Jennifer Daugherity, OT; Emily Smith, OUT; Lesl Cooper, OT; Jane Larkin, OT; Michelle Graham, OT; Tiffany Smith, OT: Carolynn Keane OT) Participants will receive fine motor activity bins and participate in make-and-take activities that can be used in the preschool classroom.

<u>Mental Health Referral Process and Health Information</u> (presented by Shanel Carson, Michaela Myers, and Timika Sholar)

Participants will review how mental health and social emotional development relate to early childhood success and learn the steps of the Mental Health Referral process for students presenting with behavior health concerns. General information on health requirements will also be shared.

Parent Orientation and Parent Meetings (presented by Dr. Tiffany Patterson)

This session will provide participants with information to share with parents during orientation in addition to conducting parent meetings for families.

<u>Principles of Active Supervision</u> (presented by Charisse Baker and Crystal Griffin)

During this session, participants will receive information regarding active supervision, which promotes a safe environment and prevents injuries in young children. It requires focused attention and intentional observation at all times. Staff must use active supervision strategies to make sure children of all ages explore their environments safely.

Session Descriptions

Supporting Communication in the Classroom (presented by Jamie Seek, M.A., CCC-SLP)

This session describes the connection between communication, speech, and language and emphasizes the importance of accepting and supporting communication from students that occurs in any modality. Participants will learn how to foster classroom environments that support all methods of communication for improved student outcomes.

<u>Supporting Students with Exceptionalities: Safety and Security Strategies</u> (presented by Ernest Hickman, SPED Advisor Exceptional Education and Jennifer Wyatt, MA, BCBA, LBA)

Participants will receive strategies to enhance the safety and security of students with exceptionalities.

The Role of the Teacher Assistant (presented by Nicohl Collier and Yvette Williams)

This session will offer learning and support activities designed to prepare Pre-K Teachers Assistants for work with and on behalf of three- and four-year-old children and their families, as well as ongoing classroom experiences to enhance the work. Teacher Assistants should leave this session with a wealth of ideas to improve early childhood knowledge, skills, and practices directly related to their role in the Pre-K classroom.

TRIAD Myth Busters: Autism Edition (presented by Dr. Sarah Blumberg Chapel and Amy Kinsman, Educational Consultants at Vanderbilt Kennedy Center's TRIAD)

Participants will reflect on their existing knowledge of autism and identify new takeaways related to the characteristics of autism, inclusivity, and neurodiversity. We will analyze common myths and truths about the communication and social skills of students with autism. Participants will connect autism truths about communication and social skills to TRIAD-related professional development to help educators better serve students with autism.

<u>Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE)</u> (presented by Kathryn Bostick and Heather Moore)

This session will provide guidance on TDOE compliance and monitoring. This session will support teachers with TDOE Notebook requirements and e-licensing requirements.

<u>United Way Driving the Dream Intake and Referral Process</u> (presented by United Way Staff)

Participants will gain new information on updates to the Caseworthy Data Management Referral System data to include outcome charts from the 2023-2024 program year and its impact on supporting families.

MSCS Pre-K Resources

Pre-K Website

Bookmark the Pre-K website, your one-stop-shop for Pre-K resources and information. Be sure to visit the site regularly!



bit.ly/mscsprek

Like and follow our MSCS Early Childhood program Facebook page for information, event photos, and more.



Receiving Professional Development Credit

An Attendance Survey link will be shared at the end of each session. All participants <u>must</u> complete the attendance survey at the end of a session to receive professional development credit.

Participants will receive one hour of professional development credit for every session fully attended.

MSCS staff will receive professional development credit via PLZ. Once credit is issued, you must log into PLZ and complete the Teacher Survey for each session in order for it to appear on your transcript.

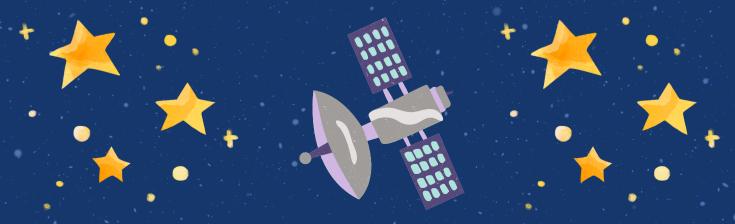
Community Partner staff will receive certificates via e-mail. You will receive a certificate for each session attended.

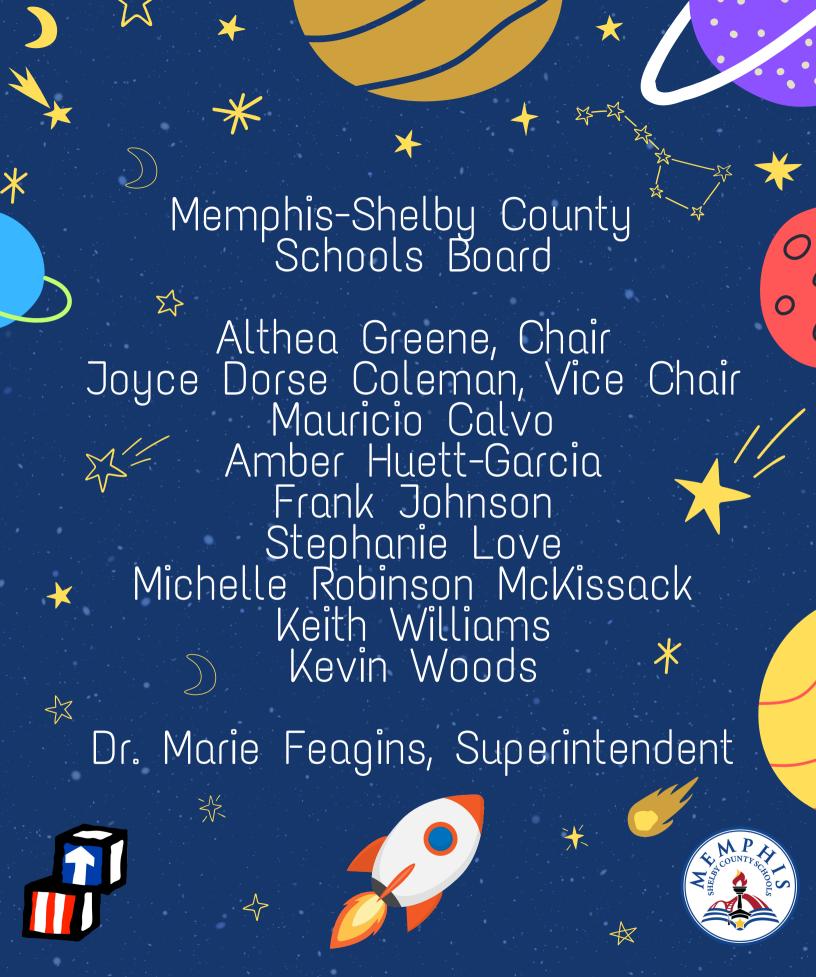
All staff are required to log all of your professional development credit on the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE)

Professional Development Log. Additional guidance can be found on the Professional Development page of the MSCS Pre-K website.

TDOE requires that all Pre-K staff complete a minimum of thirty

(30) professional development hours annually.





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