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Darcey School Newsletter

Principal's Message

Darcey School Mission Statement

Our early childhood team is dedicated to the development of young children in a secure and nurturing environment that promotes curiosity, a love of learning, and the joy of discovery. Our staff works collaboratively with families and the community to provide a creative and flexible educational program. We recognize the strengths of each individual, encourage self-confidence, and establish a strong foundation for lifelong learning. We believe in providing enriched educational experiences which enable children to become independent thinkers and problem solvers who can work and play well with others and have respect for the world in which they live.



Dear Parents,

In the Darcey Newsletter I choose a topic to write about that I hope parents will find interesting and informative about some aspect of the Darcey program. This month I wanted to tell you about our mission statement which is at the masthead of this newsletter. Several years ago the entire Darcey community, which included teachers, instructional assistants, secretaries, and parents, spent a day crafting this mission statement. Over the course of six grueling hours the committee examined our beliefs about early childhood education, schooling, the teaching/learning process, and their hopes and dreams for the children and families we work with. They went through several drafts and many long discussions about the meaning of every word and every punctuation mark. At the end of the day the statement above was drafted, and after two more meetings the final polishing was done!

The statement first of all proclaims that all of the people in the building are part of the same team- "our early childhood team". We recognize that every adult crosses paths with Darcey children in different ways and every interaction has an effect. For that reason all of us have to have our mission in our consciousness! We all work very hard to insure that the environment here is nurturing and safe, that the learning is joyful, and that we promote curiosity and discovery. These are basic traits of young children and it is important

to us to honor that and do everything we can to keep it alive. We also want to acknowledge that everything we do is in partnership with families and the community. We are very proud of the fact that education in Cheshire begins at Darcey and so the last several sentences of the mission statement speak to the foundation that is laid here and our expectations that our children will become independent thinkers and problem solvers with respect for their world. We know that this is the type of learner and citizen that will be most successful in today's challenging, global society and so we felt the need to say that clearly. The real challenge is to make sure that the instructional practice, our curriculum, and our interactions with children every day maximize the possibility that this type of learner will be the result. And thus, this is why it remains a "mission". I hope it will continue to inspire us to be the best that we can be for the Darcey children for years to come.

Thanks for listening,

Ann