

February/March 2019

South County Community Partnership

Parent Dispatch

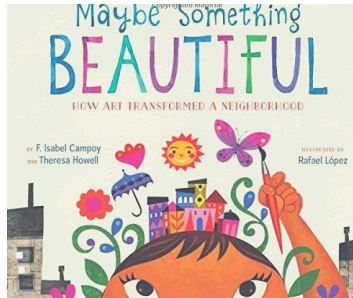


UPCOMING EVENTS



Parent Cafe Series

We will continue our Parent Cafe series in April. Join us for coffee and conversation! Parents, grandparents, and primary caregivers are invited for discussion of a variety of parenting topics. April's topic will be Resilience - dates and times will be announced shortly. Watch for our flyer or email acelona@oxps.org to be placed on our email list.



Annual Literacy Fair

Join us on Saturday, March 23 for our Annual Literacy Fair! The Literacy Fair offers free activities, book bags, and books from area community organizations for families of young children. See our flyer in this newsletter for more information!



Kindergarten Skills Workshops

Beginning in May, we will be offering free skills workshops for families of incoming kindergarten students who are registered in the town of Oxford. Priority will be given to children with no prior preschool experience. Please contact Amy at acelona@oxps.org for more information.

CALLING ALL KINDERGARTNERS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS HERE!

Parents of children who will be age 5 by this fall, please see the attached information on Kindergarten registration. It is important to start this exciting process as soon as possible, for a fun and successful Kindergarten year!

Oxford Kindergarten Registration



A.M. Chaffee Elementary School

9 Clover Street Oxford, MA 01540

508-987-6057 508-987-5828

Robert Pelczarski, Principal



February 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome To A.M. Chaffee Elementary School!

We are pleased to announce Kindergarten Registration for the 2019-2020 school year. Kindergarten is an exciting time and we look forward to meeting our new students and introducing them to their new school. Any child who will be 5 years old on or before August 31, 2019 is eligible to attend Kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year.

This year, registration will occur between **April 1st and April 12th**. If your child will be attending a private Kindergarten or you have chosen not to register your child at this time, please call the school to let us know.

The registration process begins on-line. Please go to the 'Oxford Public Schools' Website (www.oxps.org) and under Parent Links select "New Student Registration and Enrollment". There is a required form to complete and submit online. After completing the online form, you should print and complete the other registration forms, and collect all required documents. Please contact our school registration office at 508-987-6050, extension 1128 to make a **registration appointment**.

When your registration is complete you will be instructed to contact the A.M. Chaffee to schedule a June Kindergarten screening appointment. This Screening is designed to assess a child's educational needs so that appropriate Kindergarten activities can be provided and an appropriate placement can be made.

Please note that if your child is currently an A.M. Chaffee School student or receiving student services, **he/she does not need to be re-registered or screened.**

If you have any questions about Kindergarten registration, eligibility, or A.M. Chaffee School in general please don't hesitate to call. 508-987-6057

We look forward to seeing you in June for Kindergarten Screening
The Chaffee School Staff

Dudley/Charlton Kindergarten Registration

DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Kristine E. Nash
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Richard J. Mathieu
Director of Finance and Operations



68 Dudley-Oxford Road
Dudley, Massachusetts 01571
508-943-6888
508-943-1077 - fax
www.dcrsd.org

Lorinda C. Allen
Director, Special Education

Barbara A. Marderosian
*Interim Director of Curriculum
and Student Assessment*

Karen A. Ares
STEAM Director

It's time to register for Preschool and Kindergarten!!

The registration process for the 2019-2020 will differ this year than it has in years past. We hope you will find this streamlined process quick, easy, and convenient. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District currently utilizes a central registration process. All registrations will take place at the central registrar's office which is located at 68 Dudley-Oxford Road, Dudley, MA (Superintendent's Office). **All registrations are conducted on an appointment basis only. You will not be able to complete the registration process if you arrive at the office without a scheduled appointment.**

To qualify for enrollment your child must be:

- Age 4 by September 1, 2019 for Preschool
- Age 5 by September 1, 2019 for Kindergarten

The district recognizes that some children who turn 5 years old shortly after the cutoff date of September 1st may exhibit the cognitive, emotional, and social maturity to begin kindergarten. As such, students seeking early admittance must meet the certain criteria to be considered for entrance. *Written notice to the district of a parent's intent to apply for his/her child's early admittance must be received no later than **March 15th** of the prior school year.* More information is available on the district website under Policy JEB.

1. Visit the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District parent page for new student registrations at <http://www.dcrsd.org/parents/new-student-registration>
2. Click on the Pre-registration link on the parent page to begin the pre-registration process.
3. Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the end of the pre-registration page to schedule an appointment with the central registrar. Be sure to have all supporting documents with you at the time of your appointment.

Preschool Fee Schedule:

- \$1,000/year ~ 2 ½ day sessions
 - 50% (\$500) due by June 1, 2019
 - 50% (\$500) due by January 4, 2020
- Form of Payment: Personal checks or money orders only. Please make check payable to Dudley-Charlton Regional School District.
- Applications for financial assistance are available in the principal's office.

Webster Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration Information



Please join us at Park Ave Elementary School for our Kindergarten Registration Information Night!

Who:

Parents of Children who live in Webster, MA and will be age 5 as of August 31, 2019.

When:

Wednesday, April 10th at 6:30 pm

Where:

Park Ave Elementary School Cafeteria
58 Park Ave Webster, MA

Hear from our staff - Administration, Teachers, Related Service Providers, Counselor, Nurse, Food Service, Before & After School care and more!

Registration Packets are available for pick up at the Park Ave Main Office - or get one at our registration night!

All families who have a complete packet turned in by May 1, 2019 will be entered into a drawing for some "PAE Swag"!

Don't miss our "Going to Kindergarten" story time and school tour for parents and incoming Kindergarten students on Thursday, May 16th at 6:30pm!





Behind Every Child Behavior, There is a Feeling –

Talking Is Teaching

Guidance on these materials provided by Dr. Joshua Sparrow and the Brazelton Touchpoints Center.
More on their inspiring work on children's development at
<https://www.brazeltontouchpoints.org/>.

Small children have big feelings: there's an emotion behind every action

Challenging behavior in young children often triggers strong reactions in parents and caregivers. When parents feel angry, overwhelmed, frustrated or embarrassed, it can be difficult to figure out what is driving a young child's actions. Sometimes a child may even seem to be trying to get a rise out of their parent! But behind every child's behavior is a feeling that they're experiencing, too. When parents and caregivers learn to recognize the feelings behind their children's behaviors, parenting is easier. Also, the more parents understand about their children's behaviors, the closer they feel to their children and the better they can express care and love to them. Children who feel cared for and loved develop stronger social-emotional skills like confidence and self-esteem, which make it easier for them to manage their emotions so they can do better in school and beyond.

The behaviors babies and toddlers use to communicate with their parents and caregivers depend a lot on their age and development. Very young babies cry when they're hungry, uncomfortable, or tired. As they get older, they learn to communicate using words, facial expressions, and gestures, too. By observing their children closely, and with a little practice, parents and caregivers can learn to translate the behavior they see—throwing food off a high-chair, for example, or having a tantrum when dropped off at child care. The effort to understand the feelings behind a child's behavior can bring a parent and child closer, and help that parent teach their child the social-emotional skills they will need to learn and grow.

But how do you know if a baby is crying at night because they're hungry or scared? And how do you learn to tell if a toddler is having a tantrum in the store because they want a toy, or are tired?

Source <http://talkingisteaching.org/resources/behind-every-child-behavior-there-is-a-feeling>

Be a "feelings detective"

Parents and caregivers can learn a lot about their child by watching them from birth.

What makes them anxious? How often do they get hungry? Are they fussier when they're tired? It helps to learn your child's patterns, and to imagine what they might be feeling. In a challenging situation, you might try asking yourself, "What else could be going on here?" This can help you respond calmly and consistently to their needs.

Be kind to yourself

It's easier to be loving and patient when a child is smiling and playing than when they're crying or being demanding. But difficult behaviors are a typical part of early childhood, and it's natural for parents to have all kinds of feelings about these challenges. Respect your feelings, make sure your child is safe, and let yourself take a break if you need to regain your cool. When you can calm yourself during challenging times, you're letting your baby know they can rely on you to help them manage their own emotions.

Build a toolbox together

As your child develops, you can teach them to recognize their feelings by naming them, such as "It's frustrating when you can't get what you want", or "It can get so boring when you have to wait". You can also help them identify simple choices they can make to feel better, such as "Let's wait our turn by playing with these blocks instead", or "Let's sing a song while we wait". Offering alternatives helps them learn to express themselves in better ways that will serve them throughout life.

Learning about your child's development:

Here are some basic age-appropriate ways that you can support your child's feelings:

Birth to 9 months old

Talk, read, and sing to your baby. By holding, cuddling, singing and talking to your baby every day during daily routines, you provide the nurturing their growing brains need. And your baby needs your loving touch and soothing words just as much when they're fussy to help them feel special. A bonus is that these bonding moments help you feel better, too. Help your child transition to a new caregiver. A favorite toy, stuffed animal or blanket can help comfort your baby in unfamiliar situations. Also, be aware of your own response to a new caregiver when your baby is present; your baby can notice concern in your facial expressions and body language even when they are very young.

9 months to 18 months old

Be an emotional role model. Even at a young age, your baby learns by watching you. Taking a deep breath during stressful situations, expressing joy when you're happy, and letting your child know that you love them helps them learn how to behave with others.

Be aware of developmental stages. Though your baby is becoming a toddler, they're still not capable of doing things that older children can do, like sharing toys or playing one-on-one with other children. The more you know about what your child is capable of at a certain age, the more prepared you'll be for the times when they need a little more help to get along with others.

18 months to 24 months

Talk about feelings. As your child learns new words, ask your child to think about how they're feeling, and offer words to help them express difficult emotions. Help your child develop appropriate responses. Young toddlers need guidance to understand the appropriate ways to behave when they're angry, disappointed or frustrated. You can help them by hugging them, telling a story, singing a song, or giving them a favorite toy or blanket so they can self-soothe.

24 months to 36 months

Offer choices. Older toddlers typically want to feel some control over their environment. Let them decide how they will accomplish tasks, or offer simple "either/or" choices. Simple choices can reduce conflicts and help your child learn to communicate their needs and wants using words. Praise good behavior. Be specific about what they did right, and how that made you feel.

Want to learn more about the feelings behind your child's behaviors? Check out the video "Small Children Have Big Feelings." at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBTqi3lB6i4>

Reading is
BEAUTIFUL
South County Community Partnership
**ANNUAL
LITERACY FAIR**

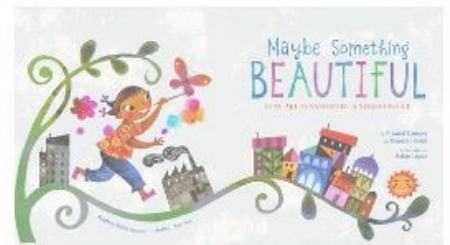
MARCH 23, 2019 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
CHAFFEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
OXFORD

**FREE Admission for families of
children ages 2-5 from all towns**

Free book bags to first 75 families!
Free preschool age books to first 120 children!
Door prizes provided by area community organizations!

Family activities and information
provided by area early education programs, health
& social service agencies, and other community
organizations!

Made possible by a collaboration with the
Oxford Public Schools
and area community organizations



South County Community Partnership is
funded by the CFCE grant from the MA EEC 

Do you have concerns about your child's speech or other areas of development?

Connect with your area Early Intervention provider



• South Central MA and CT •
486 Worcester Street
Southbridge, MA 01550
(508) 765-0292

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Kennedy-Donovan Center provides a comprehensive, family-centered, and community-based Early Intervention program. Certified by the Department of Public Health, we provide services to young children, birth to 36 months, who have or are at risk for developmental delays. In our Early Intervention program, we believe the parent or caretaker is at the center of the team.

OUR APPROACH

Our comprehensive approach to Early Intervention includes advocacy, information, and referrals. Services are provided in natural settings such as the home, child care centers, or community play groups and include: a family-centered focus, professionally trained staff, developmental evaluations, home visits, child care center visits, child-focused groups, parent support groups, and fully accessible facilities.

INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICES

Early Intervention is about working with you and your child to provide support and information that will assist your child in reaching his or her developmental goals. Early Intervention specialists, with expertise in child development and your child's specific needs, work with you and your child together in your home or other settings that are part of your child's daily routine.

PARENT EDUCATION & TRANSITION TO SCHOOL PLANNING

Families in Kennedy-Donovan Center's Early Intervention receive education and training in supporting their children's continued development. Our Early Intervention specialists provide information and referrals for a successful transition to school or other community programs.

WHO WE SERVE

Kennedy-Donovan Center's Early Intervention provides services when your infant or toddler is faced with developmental challenges, such as: developmental delays in motor skills, communication, learning and play, social emotional behaviors, and self care; medical conditions or diagnoses affecting development; or environmental conditions that affect development, such as the need for parenting education or social supports for your family.

<https://www.kdc.org/services/early-intervention/>



SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

SCCP is funded by the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education & Care (EEC)



South County Community Partnership



@sccp_oxford



www.sccpartnership.wixsite.com/mysite * acelona@oxps.org