



# Lowndes County BOE Head Start Voices Newsletter

www.lowndesboeheadstart.org

VOLUME 2

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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start Program is to empower our families by providing educational and family-focused opportunities to improve their economic well-being and healthy lifestyle. We will accomplish this mission one child, one family at a time by involving parents and securing highly qualified staff.

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## From the Director's Desk

We are a little more than halfway in our year. We have had some exciting things that have taken place thus far and we thank those parents who have come out to show your support for our program. However, we have more tasks to complete in an effort to make sure we are supporting all Head Start children and families. We are continuing our focus on School Readiness. The Office of Head Start says this about what school readiness is: "Head Start views school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life." There is a new emphasis being placed on assuring that this is happening for all children in all Head Start programs. This also means there are some new things we have to do and record about how the children are doing. Your role in helping us do this is more important than ever! There are 3 areas where we need your help in the next few months. All of these are very important steps in helping your child be ready for school and get the most out of the Head Start Program.

1) **ATTENDANCE-** It is very important that your child attend the program regularly. This is a basic for school-readiness. If/when your child is not present they cannot learn what they need to be ready for school! The Office of Head Start expects

children that attend center-based program to be present at least 85% of the time. This is why Family Advocates call you when your child is absent. As a program we are expected to increase our overall attendance this year. The Office of Head Start wants our attendance higher because they know that if children are not present they are missing the opportunities of the classroom experiences. As parents, it is your job to make sure your child attends regularly. We know that children get sick and there are guidelines for when a child should stay home due to illness. Except for child illness we are asking you to do everything possible to send your child to the program daily. This is also a good preparation for kindergarten. Children are expected to be in school regularly. Please help us increase your child's opportunities to learn and our program goal of increasing our attendance.

2) **PARTNER WITH STAFF-**In order to help your child learn all they can we need your help. Staff need your ideas about how your child is learning and growing at home. They need you to help re-set goals for your child for the rest of the year. You are the one who knows your child best. When staff call you on the phone, come for home-visits or ask you to send information back to them, please do all you can to respond. We know you are



all busy but we can't do the best for your child without you helping us. Remember, you are always welcome in the classrooms/sites.

3) **WORK WITH YOUR CHILD-**Since you are the 1st and most important Teacher of your child, you also can be helping him/her learn every day at home. As a part of our school-readiness goals, we will be giving you more ideas of what you can do at home to work with your child. This may be in the classroom newsletter, on a separate piece of paper, or discussed during a home-visit. Please always make sure and check back-packs and pockets for information sent home such as the activity calendar which list simple activities you can do with your child at home. Not only will this help your child but we can use your hours for in-kind. If you help us in the above 3 ways it will be good for your child, you and the program! I am certain we can do this together! For more information about Head Start School Readiness visit the ECLKC website. This is the official Head Start website and has lots of good information for parents.

Sincerely,  
Samita L. Jeter, Director



## Fiscal News

### Saving Your Money

“I’d like to save, but there’s never any money left at the end of the month!” Just about all of us have felt this way about saving money. Saving money simply means **putting money aside**. When we think about where we spend money, many of us probably could find a few extra dollars here and there that could be put toward a future goal.

#### What are your goals?

Strong money goals say:

- What you want,
- When you want it,
- How much you need, and They are written down.

Research by the Consumer Federation of America suggests people are twice as likely to be successful savers if they have specific money goal. Putting money aside may mean making changes to your

current money habits and coming up with new habits. Here are some ideas to help you get started.

#### Pay Yourself First

What if you set money aside at the start of the month instead of waiting to see if there’s any left at the end? If you wait until the end of the money to set money aside, it seems like other expenses always come up and then there’s no money left.

#### Ideas to Jumpstart Your Savings

- Break a habit
- Find little ways to save
- Save windfall income
- Keep an eye on your goal
- Take charge of your change
- Play the savings game

#### Set a Goal, Pick an Idea, and, Get Started!

*Lashica Mason, Fiscal Manager*

## Family & Community Services Report

The Family and Community Partnerships department would like to thank all parents, guardians, volunteers, and community partners for donating a grand total of \$ 146,064.21 in-kind donations as of January 31, 2018.



Central	Fort Deposit	Jackson-Steele	Community
<b>Head Start:</b>	<b>Head Start:</b>	<b>Head Start:</b>	<b>Partners:</b>
\$107,876.07	\$ 11,704.94	\$ 11,976.56	\$ 14,506.64
			Total: \$146,064.21
<b>Classroom 1</b>	<b>Classroom 1</b>	<b>Classroom 1</b>	
\$21,684.91	\$2,673.53	\$6,651.60	
<b>Classroom 2</b>	<b>Classroom 2</b>	<b>Classroom 2</b>	
\$46,084.58	\$ 207.99	\$5,324.96	
<b>Classroom 3</b>	<b>Classroom 3</b>		
\$10,506.37	\$ 977.08		
<b>Classroom 4</b>	<b>Classroom 4</b>		
\$12,212.06	\$7,846.34		
<b>Classroom 5</b>			
\$17,388.15			
Total \$107,876.07	Total \$11,704.94	Total \$11,976.56	



# Alabama Head Start Association

Laura James-Hunter-Family and Community Partnerships Manager would like to acknowledge and thank the following parents and staff members for our supporting the Alabama Head Start Association. Our director Samita L. Jeter serves as the president.

The Alabama Head Start Association has and will continue to advocate for Alabama’s young children and families. The association is reaching out to our most valuable clients to help spread the Head Start pride.

Head Start is entering a challenging and exciting time, as economic and political pressures on our society increase and the demand for higher quality services continues to rise.

The benefits of membership are:

- Discounted rate on registration for AHSA conference and trainings
- Strengthen your voice as an advocate for Head Start
- Participate in special programs with associate sponsors
- Receive policy and legislative updates
- Broaden professional networks



While Alabama Head Start Association asks that members play an active role, they pride themselves on supporting each other as a team and believe that they offer an opportunity for members to learn and grow with the organization.

Membership dues are:  
 Parent: \$3.00  
 Staff: \$5.00

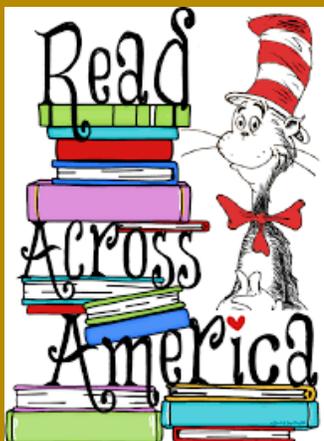
<b>Parents</b>				
<u>Central HS</u>		<u>Jackson-Steele HS</u>		
Angela Braxton-Rudolph		Linda Hyde		
Dr. Tara Green		Joan Moorcer-Robinson		
Lenard Greenwood, Sr.				
<b>Staff</b>				
<u>Central HS</u>	<u>Fort Deposit HS</u>	<u>Jackson-Steele HS</u>	<u>Central Office</u>	
Queen Gordon	Allison Cain	Verna Perryman	Dan W. Davis	
Annie Patterson	Evelyn Lambert	Rosla Moore	Shirley Davis	
Sharon Ray	Lucenyan Powell		Laura James-Hunter	
Bridget Simmons-Hardy	Stephanie Scott		Lashica Mason	
Cournisha Taylor-Banks	Kimberly Thicklin-Davis		Merrie J. Peoples	
Helen Thomas				
Dorothy Williams				

**REMEMBER:**  
 “If you believe that the Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start is needed in our community continue to volunteer and support the program”

Laura James-Hunter-Family & Community Partnership Manager LCBOEHS Central Office

Shirley A. Davis-Family Advocate Practitioner                      Merrie J. Peoples-Family Advocate Practitioner  
 Jackson-Steele Head Start/Fort Deposit Head Start                      Central Head Start

Lori A. Malisham-Family Advocate Practitioner  
 Fort Deposit Head Start/Central Head Start



## Center News

During the month of December we studied the theme Stories and Rhymes. The children recited nursery rhymes, recognized and produced rhyming words. The children also participated in the fine art of music and instruments. Mrs. Grey introduced the children to a variety of musical genre. The children performed a variety of songs for the Christmas program.

During the month of January, we studied the theme Choices. The children learned how to make the right choices and help others. They continued to enjoy the musical teachings of Mrs. Grey. They performed a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for their parents and guardians.

During the month of February, we are studying the theme I Build, I Create. The children were introduced to a variety of tools and learned what they are used for. The children are exploring a variety of ways to build using paper, shapes, boxes, and other materials. They are also enjoying the fine art of dance. Ms. Littleton is teaching them to dance to a variety of music.

## Spotlight on Head Start Parents

### Central Head Start

Congratulations to Ms. Janethia Howard she became a member of the Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start Policy Council on February 6, 2018!

Congratulations to Ms. Tanisha Johnson who has graduated from Virginia College!

Congratulations to Ms. Sandra Hunter who has graduated from Virginia College and is working in her field!

Congratulations to the Ms. Shemika Boone, Baby Charlysia was welcomed to their family!

Congratulations to the Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Howard, Baby Eric was welcomed to their family!

Congratulations to Ms. La'Wanna Logan has a new job!

Congratulations to Ms. Kamelah Thicklin has a new job!

Congratulations to Ms. Cornelia Myles has a new job!

Congratulations to Ms. Senteria Davis has a new job!

Congratulations to Ms. Chanterius Davis for her great accomplishment!

Congratulations to Ms. Chelsea Carter for her great accomplishment!

Congratulations to Ms. Sandtina Thigpen has a new job!

Congratulations to Ms. Reonna Scott she received her high school diploma! Ms. Scott has been accepted at H. Council Trenholm State College and her major is Pharmacy Technology.

### Fort Deposit Head Start

Congratulations to Mrs. Ashley Sellers-Baity she won the Lowndes County Public Schools' Volunteer of the Quarter for December 2017!

Congratulations to Ms. Heather McGuire she has a new job at Bancorp South Bank!

Congratulations to Ms. Shamekia Porterfield she received her high school diploma!

Congratulations to Ms. Roderica McCall for her great accomplishment!

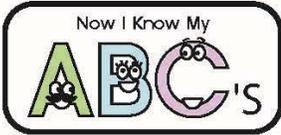
Congratulations to Ms. Quinetta Powell for her great accomplishment!

### Jackson-Steele Head Start

Congratulations to Ms. Sonya Gresham she has a new job at Wal-Mart!

Congratulations to Ms. Kamron White she has a new job at Duke Electric Company!

You're off to  
Great places!  
Today is your day!  
Your mountain  
is waiting, so...  
Get on your way!  
- Dr Seuss -



Connect the dots then color in the hidden picture!  
Connect the dots from A to Z in alphabetical order.

## Health Report

We have experienced an exciting school year thus far. We have had the first round of health screenings, and we are looking forward to round two.

Parents, please be reminded that your child must have an up-to-date shot record on file at the school at all times. Also, remember that your child will need to receive a complete physical every 12 months and a dental exam every 6 months. If you have not done so, update your child's medical records.

The flu season is still upon us; schedule your child an appointment to get his/her flu vaccination. Your child will not be allowed to come to school if he/she has the flu. You will not be allowed to visit the school if you have the flu. Please keep yourself and others well.



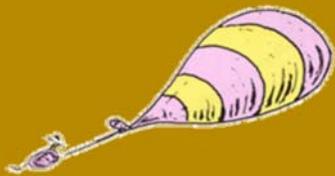
### 5 Healthy New Year's Resolutions for Children

- I will clean up my toys, and keep my room in good order.
- I will brush my teeth twice a day, and wash my hands before eating and after the bathroom.
- I will be nice to others and make new friends.
- I will wear my seat belt every time I ride in a vehicle.
- I will find a sport or outdoor activity that I like, and do it at least three times a week.

Joan Moorer-Robinson, H/MH Coordinator

## Education Report

We cannot believe we are starting the third quarter of preschool; the school year is just moving along so quickly. Due to the season of winter please continue to look for changes in the weather, one days it is cold and very warm the next. We have been having a great time growing and learning all year! We are continuing to becoming more independent at school and hopefully at home too. Every month a calendar is sent home to reinforce the skills and concepts we are learning at school.



Central Head Start had their dance recital in the month of January. The theme was Central-Land, similar to Candyland. The girls remained "Trolls" and the boys became "The Men in Black".



Jackson-Steele performed various Christmas songs for the December Christmas program. Santa arrived at the end of the performance to speak to the children.



Fort Deposit celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday with a musical performance to recognize the importance of his achievement.



## Recruitment Information:

We are now taking applications for all sites for the 2017-2018 school year. If you know of any children that are three (3), and/or four (4) years old, **please call 334.548.2145 and 334.548.2511** for more information.

You must have the following:

Proof of age, Proof of Income, and current Immunization Record  
(Blue Slip).

107 W Lafayette Street  
P. O. Box 158  
Hayneville, AL 36040

[www.lowndesboeheadstart.org](http://www.lowndesboeheadstart.org)

Phone: 334-548-2145/2511

Fax: 334-548-2021

E-mail: [headstart@lowndesboe.org](mailto:headstart@lowndesboe.org)

Birthday wishes for everyone  
celebrating in the months of  
December, January, and February.

Kamil Jarrett 12-03  
La'Jared Powell 12-05  
JerKerrious Wilson 12-05  
Kadmiel Phakornkham 12-07  
Adalynn Pully 12-11  
Prince Perryman 12-11  
Ariana Maddox-Coleman 12-12  
Zayden Mitchell 12-13  
Bailey Bellamy 12-17  
Londyn McGuire 12-20  
Romilia Myles 12-21  
Jamilya Shuford 12-22  
Nalayah Abner 12-25  
Melody Gresham 12-26  
Avery Gordon 12-27  
Caden Hamilton 12-27  
Evion Gordon 12-27  
Theodore Hyde 12-27  
Ta'Neil Smith 01-03  
Taniya Ambrose 01-11  
Mary Simmons 01-11  
Kayden Lewis 01-12  
Kennedy Coley 01-13  
K'Marie Coley 01-13

Carmen Purifoy 01-13  
Kylee Howard 01-16  
Jordan Thornton 01-20  
Jalayah Reeves 01-23  
Devontay Patterson 01-23  
Sa'Niyah Montgomery 01-24  
J'Darius Barganier 01-31  
Milnya McMeans 01-31  
Noel Taylor 02-05  
Armoni' Jenkins 02-05  
Tracyara Wilson 02-10  
JaQuarious Cook 02-14  
Laila Davison 02-15  
Samia Miles 02-20  
Jeremiah McCall 02-21  
Messiah Roberts 02-26  
Alaysha Baity 02-27



# Happy Birthday!!