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SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

2023 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center

Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Early Education Center
241 North Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845.431.8803 | MidHudsonRegional.org/EarlyEducation

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MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Main Office
241 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

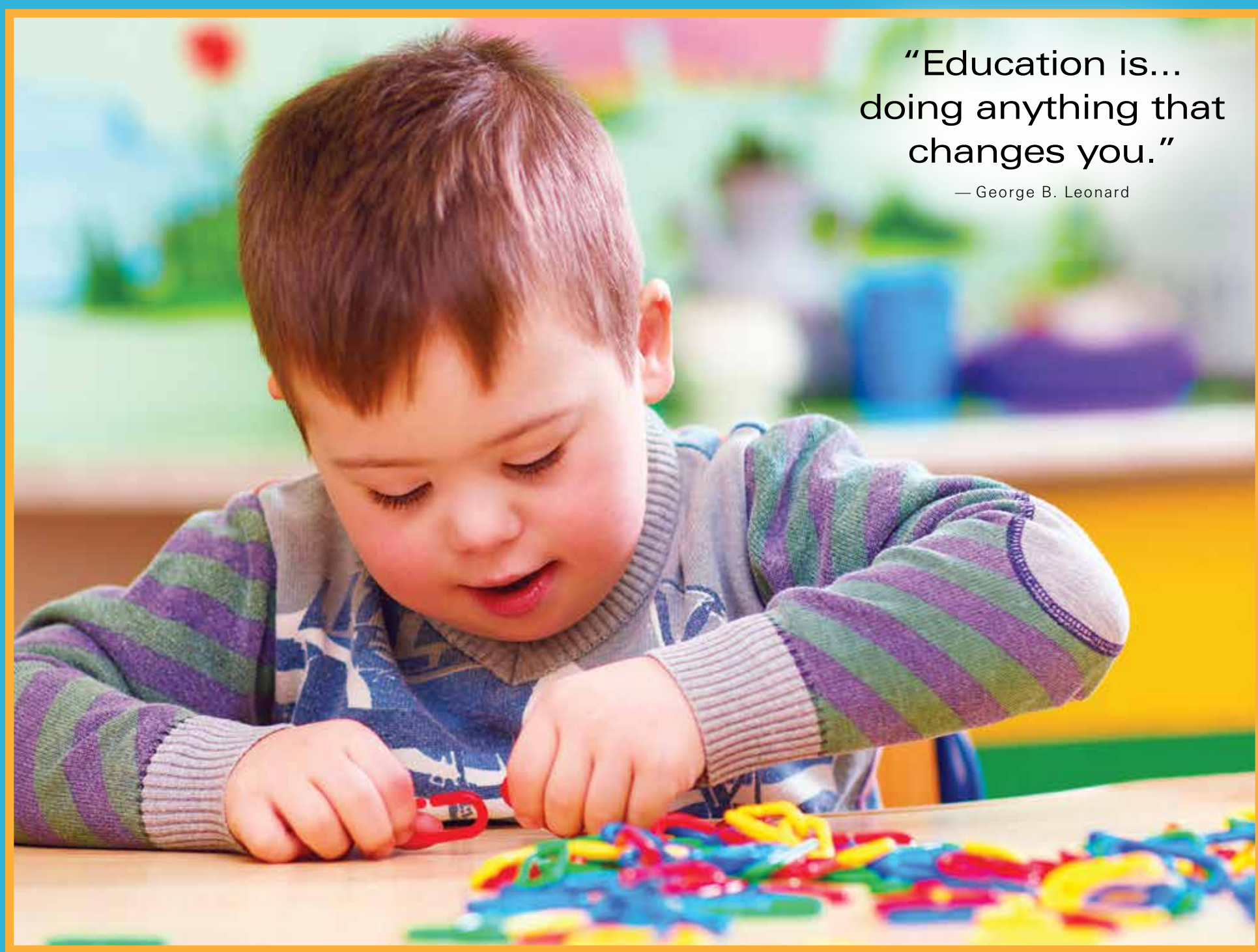
Main Office: 845.431.8803
Beacon: 845.765.2760
Hyde Park: 845.229.6044
Spackenkill: 845.462.0079

NOTES:

SEPTEMBER 2023

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day Closed	5 Staff Conference Closed	6 First Day of School	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Holiday No School	26	27	28	29	30



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NOTES:

OCTOBER 2023

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Holiday No School	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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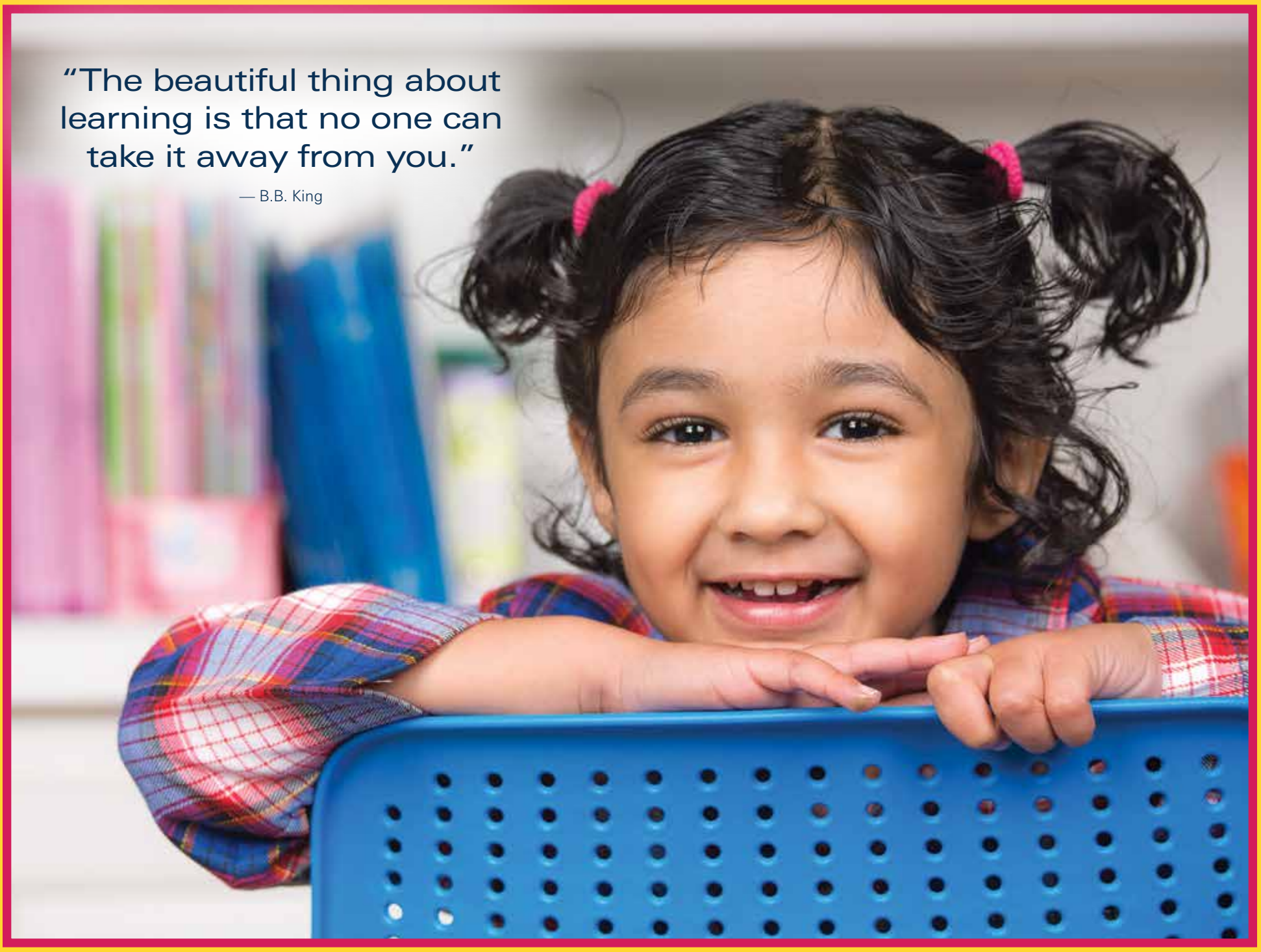
NOTES:

NOVEMBER 2023

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Parent/Teacher Conference Day	8	9	10 Holiday No School	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Holiday No School	23 Holiday No School	24 Holiday No School	25
26	27	28	29	30		



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NOTES:

DECEMBER 2023

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Holiday Recess No School	23
24 / 31	25 Holiday Recess No School	26 Holiday Recess No School	27 Holiday Recess No School	28 Holiday Recess No School	29 Holiday Recess No School	30

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NOTES:

JANUARY 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Holiday Recess No School	2 School Resumes	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Holiday No School	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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NOTES:

FEBRUARY 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Conference Day No School	17
18	19 Holiday No School	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

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MARCH 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Parent Teacher Conferences No School	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25 Holiday Recess No School	26 Holiday Recess No School	27 Holiday Recess No School	28 Holiday Recess No School	29 Holiday Recess No School	30

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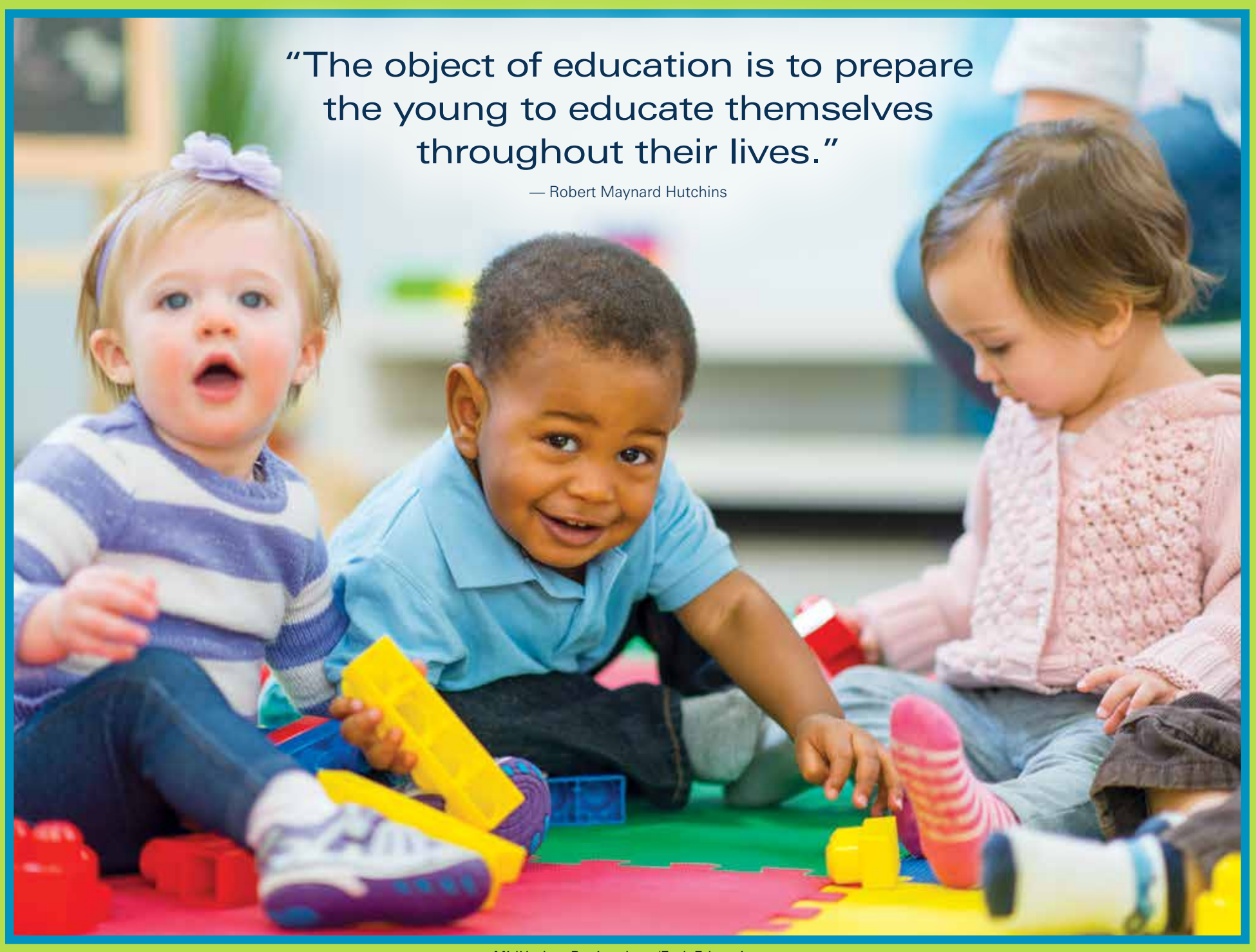
NOTES:

APRIL 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Spring Recess No School	2 School Resumes	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Conference Day No School	27
28	29	30				



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MAY 2024

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Holiday No School	25
26	27 Holiday No School	28	29	30	31	

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NOTES:

JUNE 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Holiday No School	20	21 Last Day of Classes	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

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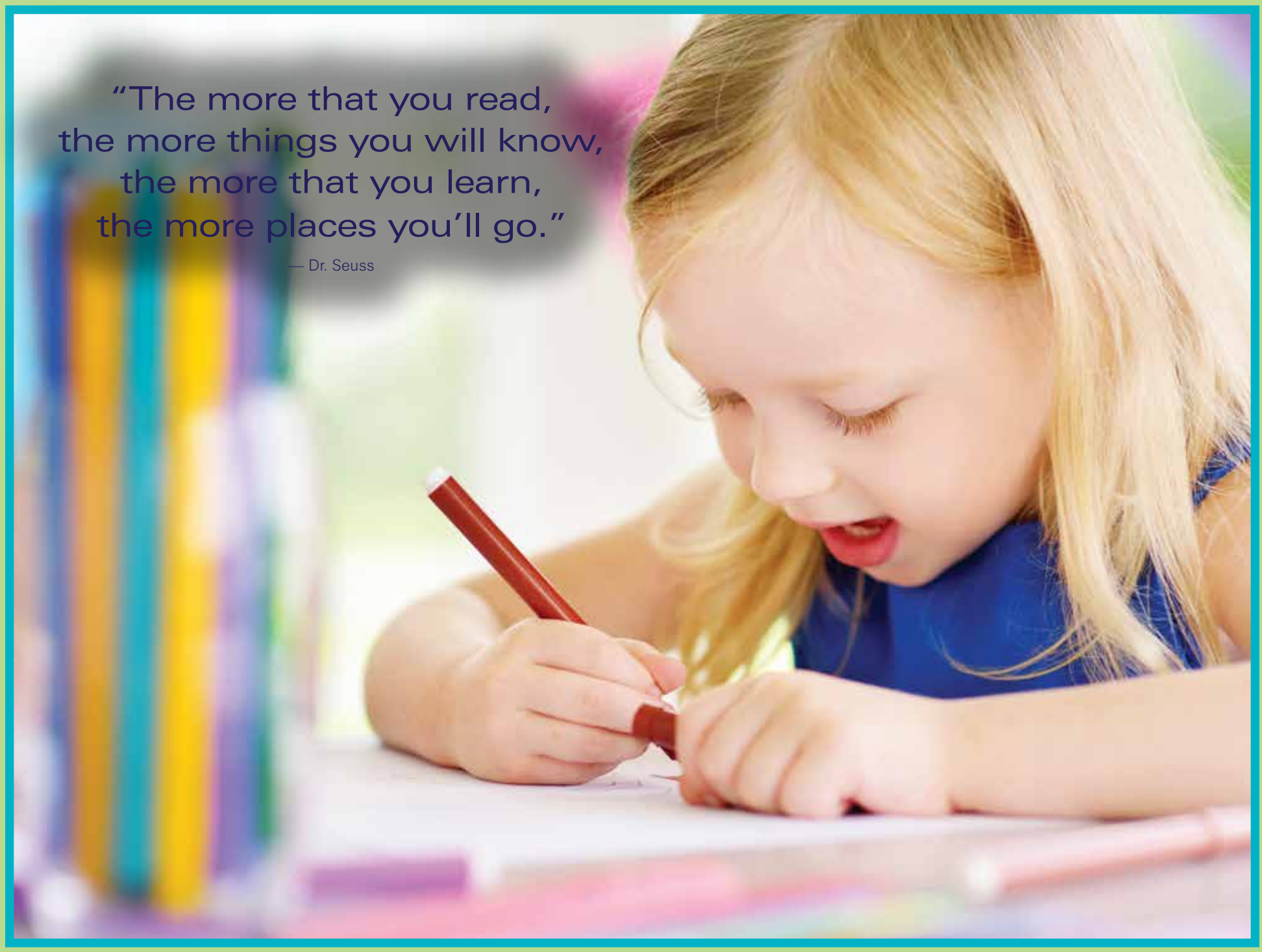
NOTES:

JULY 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



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NOTES:

AUGUST 2024

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Dear Preschool Families,

Welcome! All of our staff at MidHudson Regional Early Education Center are happy to have you join us at our school this year! Our program started over 40 years ago in Dutchess County and we are proud of the wonderful history of therapy and education we have provided for hundreds of children in our area.

Children are a special gift to their family. We are honored that you lend us your child for part of the day, but we know that you—family members—are the most important and special teachers for your child.

We are here to answer your questions and provide a quality play-based therapeutic learning experience for all the children. Your child's teacher and team will be a resource to you during the school year.

So happy September as we begin this school year together.

Sincerely,

Margaret Slomin and your Preschool Team

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MidHudson Regional Early Education Centers 1-a

Early Education Center Main Office
241 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: 845.431.8803
Fax: 845.483.5688

Beacon Center:
15 Hastings Drive
Beacon, NY 12508
Phone: 845.765.2760
Fax: 845.765.2758

Hyde Park Center:
4246 Albany Post Road
Hyde Park, NY 12538
Phone: 845.229.6044
Fax: 845.229.0191

Spackenkill Center:
23 Spackenkill Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: 845.462.0079
Fax: 845.462.0081

Driving Directions 1-b

To the Hyde Park Early Education Center From areas North and South:

Take Route 9 to Hyde Park village, turn at light into the Park Plaza (Stores-CVS, Antonella's Restaurant)

Drive left around the back of the building

Address: 4246 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538

To the Spackenkill Early Education Center From areas North, South and East:

Take Route 9 to Poughkeepsie; take Spackenkill exit by Poughkeepsie IBM, on Spackenkill Road, large white brick building across from Oakwood Day School.

From areas east, take 376 to Spackenkill Road

Address: 23 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

To the Beacon Early Education Center From areas North:

Route 9 South to Route 9D, follow 9D, turn left onto Red School House Road (CR-36) Turn right onto NY-52 BR (Fishkill Ave.) Turn right onto Delavan Ave. Turn right onto Hastings Drive.

Address: 15 Hastings Drive, Beacon, NY 12508

From areas South:

Route 9D North, turn left onto Verplanck Ave. Turn left onto Fishkill Ave. /NY-52 BR. Turn left onto Delavan Ave. Turn right onto Hastings Dr.

Address: 15 Hastings Drive, Beacon, NY 12508

Mission Statement 1-c

Our creative curriculum provides a framework that addresses delays in all areas of development including: speech and language, social/ emotional, self-help, readiness and motor.

The program philosophy encourages children to learn through their own active involvement with the world. "Hands on" experience; making choices, manipulating, exploring, practicing, and experimenting with materials and ideas, support and promote learning for all children.

We seek to provide a variety of growth experiences including music, art, computers, small groups, physical and occupational therapy.

Anywhere children are interacting with each other or staff members, learning opportunities are abundant.

We anticipate that you and your child will enjoy a great year and we are thrilled that you chose us to partner with you in your child's development!

Our Team 1-d

All of our staff are qualified personnel who are New York State certified and/or licensed professionals according to the requirements of each professional discipline.

A special education teacher develops and strengthens readiness, social and motor skills by integrating and implementing IEP goals into daily routine.

An education/teacher's assistant reinforces education and communication goals and assists in overall classroom management.

A speech-language pathologist improves oral motor/feeding, sound production/ speech clarity, and language skills through a variety of individual and group activities.

Occupational/physical therapists provide support to the classroom staff on how to integrate fine and gross motor goals into the daily routine. Strengthen small and large muscles as prescribed by the goals on the IEP.

A psychologist provides support to children and families in dealing with social and behavioral frustrations associated with developmental delays.

A school nurse develops and implements health policies and manages medical conditions as they relate to preschool children.

Various staff such as yoga teachers and musicians provide enrichment programs.

Resources for Parents 2-a

naeyc.org

autism-society.org

zerotothree.org

chadd.org

primarygames.com

nickjr.com

childdevelopmentinfo.com

choosemyplate.gov

napcse.org

autismspeaks.org

dltk-kids.com

parentpals.com

iser.com

nysed.gov

parents.com

scholastic.com

teachingstrategies.com

engageny.org

communityplaythings.com

hooplakidz.com

eric-carle.com/resources/downloads-and-activities/superkidsnutrition.com

boomlearning.com

abcya.com

Parent / Staff Information 2-b

Our staff is dedicated to providing useful feedback and training to help your child achieve goals. Please reach out to your teacher or therapist if there are topics of interest or things you would like to learn more about as the school year progresses. Some resources may be sent to you as online opportunities that you may register for and we are also interested in providing trainings in person at our center, as well as online training with our own staff.

Non-discriminatory Enrollment / Admission 2-c

Children are admitted to the MidHudson Regional Early Education Center through the CPSE evaluation and approval process. We employ a strict non-discriminatory policy with regards to enrollment. All children who qualify based on current CPSE guidelines are accepted into our program provided there are openings at the time the child qualifies. If there are no openings at the time of qualification and the parent(s) choose our program rather than seeking an alternate placement, the CPSE consider this child a pupil in need of placement and work with the family.

The MidHudson Regional Early Education Center admits students of any race, color, nationality and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Helping Children Retain Skills Over Summer Break 2-d

Children often have a hard time retaining skills during the summer break. Many parents enroll children in summer school or extended school year, but this often is an abbreviated and less structured version of the school day. Even when children are educated at home, summer often involves changes in routine. Since many children rely on consistent instruction, these changes can result in regression. This article includes strategies for preventing regression and teaching new skills.

1. Know what skills to work on – To prevent regression know what skills your child is working on and their current functioning level. Be sure to review their school progress reports, IEP (if applicable), and information from their teacher on summer reading and work. For children working on self-care, independence, or behavior skills, take data on their current progress. Be sure to ask their teachers and therapists what skills they are working on and exactly where they stand.

2. Find opportunities to practice skills – Many skills can be integrated into a daily routine. Dressing, self-care, and behavior naturally occur during the day. Take time to use these natural occurrences as learning opportunities. For example, help your child as needed to put on their shoes rather than doing it for them. It may take longer for them to do the skill on their own, but it teaches them the steps they need to be more independent. Academic skills also can be integrated into a daily routine. Have children help with any math related problems and involve them in reading. For example, if you have a family picnic and 4 cousins, 3 aunts, 3 uncles, and 2 grandparents will be there, have your child help you count the number of cupcakes you need to bring. If you are baking the cupcakes, work on literacy skills by having your child read the recipe to you. Gathering and measuring the ingredients can develop counting and fractions skills. Children can work on motor skills by cutting butter, stirring ingredients, and pouring the batter into the tin. For children who need direct instruction, schedule a time during the day specifically to work on skills.

3. Build on existing skills – When children master a skill continue to review it, but also expand on skills. For example, if your child is mastering their current list of sight words, be sure to add additional words and phrases to their skill set. If they are able to count all the spoons the family has when helping to empty the dishwasher, add a serving spoon or two and teach them to count a little higher. Build on skills one step at a time so they are successful, enjoy learning, and do not become frustrated.

4. Appreciate small steps – It can be very frustrating for parents and professionals when children learn slowly or take a step backwards. Try to remember some skills take awhile for children to acquire. Sometimes children need additional examples of the skill or a new approach for instruction. Recognize that children become frustrated as well and teach them to be persistent and patient.

5. Realize it is summer – When children have different educational programs, therapies, and activities, it can be easy to forget summer break is also for relaxing. Although working on skills is important, be sure to enjoy the fun things summer has to offer. Enroll kids in swimming lessons, summer camp, tennis class, or just let them play outside. These kinds of activities are a way to stay healthy, learn new skills, and make new friends. —**www.sandbox-learning.com**

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
PARENT INFORMATION PAGES

Requests and Requirements 3-a

Expect us to:

- Welcome you into the classroom as a partner in your child's education.
- Treat you and your child with respect.
- Treat your child as a human being who deserves the special attention that a small classroom provides
- Communicate with you in person, by phone, in writing, email or Seesaw.
- Evaluate your child to discover his/her strengths and weaknesses so as to further develop them.
- Find time each day to praise your child for something he/she did well.
- Provide an educational program consistent with the goals of your child's IEP.
- Provide individual and group activities to enhance social/emotional, academic/readiness, language, self-help, and motor development.
- Keep you informed of weekly themes and special events.
- Provide you with a list of supplies your child will need for school (diapers, extra clothes, snacks, etc.)

Things we request parents do:

- Keep the lines of communication open between school and home. If you have any questions or concerns, please call before or after your child's class hours or write to the staff.
- Notify us if your child injures himself at home (e.g., cuts, bruises, burns, falls).
- Notify staff of any changes in home or work phone numbers, addresses, and emergency contacts.
- Begin a preschool folder on your child. Information gathered at in-services, reports, and homework can be kept there for reference as well as information pertaining to the CPSE process such as your child's IEP.
- Label clothes, book bags, lunch boxes, and toys that you send to school so that we can make sure to return them to you.
- Let us know if your child is on any medication and any known allergies so that we can work with the nurse to develop a health care plan for your child.
- Please have transportation available during school hours for any emergency medical pick up of your child.

If you need additional assistance or have more questions, please call the following staff:
Margaret Slomin, Program Director: 845.431.8803
Rose Brown, RN, (for medical concerns): 845.483.5000, ext. 13743

Food Safety Policy 3-b

Children/students are offered snacks if they attend a 2 ½ hour session, and a snack and a meal if they attend programming for more than four hours. Parents are asked to provide the meals and snacks. Sufficient time, based on age and individual needs, is allowed for snack and meals. Safe drinking water is available. We reserve the right to eliminate peanuts or nut products to provide a safe environment for all students. Snacks and lunch are part of the school day.

Procedure/Practice/Implementation

1. Tables and other food contact surfaces are clean and maintained.
2. Disposable towels are used for each child.
3. Disposable drinking cups or individual drinking cups are used for each child. Any non-disposable drinking cups are washed with soap and hot water and rinsed in hot running water after each use. Shared drinking cups are prohibited.
4. Disposable paper plates are used as needed.
5. Disposable utensils are used unless a parent sends in specific utensils from home. If those utensils remain on-site they are washed with soap and hot water and rinsed in hot running water after each use.
6. Staff will wear disposable gloves when preparing and handling food or providing feeding therapy.
7. Staff preparing or serving food is in good health.
8. Food requiring refrigeration is stored in a clean and maintained refrigerator. The temperature in the refrigerator is checked and logged daily.
9. Extreme caution is used with children having specific food allergies within the classroom/daycare setting.
10. Special occasions commercial products (store bought) only with all ingredients listed.

Shoe Rules for Preschool 3-c

Proper footwear in school is important for your child's safety and allows them to participate in all activities. The preschool requests that shoes and socks be worn to school at all times. We recommend closed oxford style flat rubber soles, or sneakers. Shoes or sneakers should have ties or velcro closings. Please save fun shoes, jellies/slip-ons, flip-flops and sandals for home. Send in water shoes for water play days.

Sunscreen Alert 3-d

With the arrival of warm weather we will be spending more time outdoors. Please apply sunscreen on a daily basis on all exposed skin prior to sending your child to school. MINIMUM SPF RECOMMENDED: 30 OR MORE

Health and Wellness Policies

Daily Health Assessment Policy 4-a

In order to reduce the spread of infection and to insure the overall health and safety of children, staff/school nurse observes each child as soon as possible upon daily arrival at preschool for signs of illness or injury.

Procedure/Practice/Implementation

1. Look at child's appearance for indicators of illness or injury (e.g., cuts, pale skin, rash, itchy scalp, skin warm to touch, lethargy).
2. Listen to child if complaining of not feeling well or having pain and call parent to check on the child's health prior to leaving for preschool.
3. Take note of a change [unusual to the child] in behavior from the previous day.
4. Staff report any concerns to school nurse immediately.

Guidelines for Return After Illness 4-b

In order to ensure the health and safety of the children in our program, teachers will monitor student's daily attendance to characterize the reason for the missed days as related to illness.

Procedure/Practice/Implementation

1. Child may not return to preschool until he or she is no longer contagious and is able to participate in the normal preschool routine.
2. A doctor's note is not required if the exclusion guidelines are followed. If the teacher or nurse suspect that the guidelines have not been followed, a request should be made for a physician's note. The nurse should then review the physician's note.

Reporting Child Abuse 4-c

In order to ensure the physical and emotional well being of the children we serve, all suspected cases of child abuse will be reported to Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment (SCR).

Procedure/Practice/Implementation

All employees of MidHudson Regional Early Education Center are mandated reporters.

School Year 2023–2024 | New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance 4-d

Immunizations – As per NYS OCFS requirements, MHVEEC has procedures in place to monitor immunization records of children enrolled in MHVEEC programs that complies with New York State Public Health Law 2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019.

Children attending a daycare and pre-K through 12th grade in New York State must receive all required doses of vaccines on the recommended schedule in order to attend or remain in school. A medical exemption is allowed when a child has a medical condition that prevents them from receiving a vaccine. There are no nonmedical exemptions to school vaccine requirements in NYS.

Important school immunization information

Within 14 days of the first day of school or day care, parents must:

- Show proof of their child's up-to-date vaccination, OR
- Provide a valid medical exemption from vaccine

Children who are unvaccinated or overdue or not yet fully immunized may be admitted into the program provided the child is in the process of receiving the immunizations and appointment dates are given for the subsequent immunization(s). The child must receive the first dose of all required vaccines within the first 14 days. They also must receive subsequent vaccines in the series within a 14-day period of when they are due to complete the immunization series.

Vaccines required for day care, pre-K and school attendance:

- Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine (DTaP or Tdap)
- Hepatitis B vaccine
- Measles, Mups and Rubella vaccine (MMR)
- Polio vaccine
- Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine
- Heamophilus Influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (HiB)
- Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV)

If illness such as measles occur at the center, the un-immunized child will be required to stay home during the outbreak. The child must remain out of the program during the outbreak. The child's healthcare provider will complete the medical exemption form approved by NYS Department of Health and that information will be documented in New York State Immunization Information system (NYSIIS) by the child's healthcare provider.

Find more information at:
https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/school_vaccines/

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) 4-e

Statute: 20 U.S.C. 1232g
Regulations: 34 CFR Part 99

FERPA is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when they turn 18.

Education Records Defined:

- Records that are directly related to a student and are maintained by an educational agency or institution
- Records on a student receiving services under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Medical or health related records

Primary Rights of Parents under FERPA:

- Parents have the right to inspect and review the student's education records
- School must comply with request within 45 days
- School is generally required to give copies (only if failure to do so would effectively deny access)
- School may not destroy records if request for access is pending
- Parents have the right to request a correction in the records that they believe to be inaccurate
- Parents have the right to consent to the disclosure of information from education records

- Prior consent is not required when disclosing to the following:
  - School officials with legitimate educational interests
  - Schools in which the student seeks to enroll
  - Government authorities conducting an audit, evaluation, or enforcement action
  - Organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of the school
  - Parents of a dependent student
  - To comply with a judicial order or subpoena
  - In connection with a health or safety emergency

Directory Information:

Directory information is defined as any information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed (could include name, address, e-mail address, telephone listing, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, etc.)

Schools must tell parents about directory information disclosures and allow them a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information.

Where FERPA & HIPAA Meet:

- Basic student health information in educational records is protected under FERPA
- Follow the FERPA regulations for release of information, whether educational records or health records
  - Basic health information is defined as basic immunization records, height, weight, etc. (as maintained by the School Nurse)

The exception:

- If the educational organization is a covered entity they fall under HIPAA guidelines
- If they bill electronically for medical services provided at the educational site

Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of this notification is left to the discretion of each school.

Contact the Corporate Compliance Department at: (914) 493-2600 (Valhalla) or (845) 483-5292 (Pougheepsie) with any questions.

Emergency Procedures 5-a

1. If your child becomes ill at school, we will contact you or your emergency contact to pick up your child. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick the ill child up at school.
2. In an emergency, we will make every effort to contact you or your emergency contact. If we are unable to contact you, we will transport your child to the MidHudson Regional Hospital Emergency Department via ambulance for treatment.
3. Your emergency contact must be available to transport your child during school hours.
4. If your home, work, or emergency contact numbers change you must notify the school staff immediately.

Emergency Contacts:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Emergency Snow Policy and Transportation Information 5-b

The MidHudson Valley Early Education Center will post information on local radio stations, as well as the Seesaw learning platform, regarding school closings, school delays and early dismissals.

When MidHudson Valley Early Education Center is closed, all classes are cancelled.

Half Day AM Classes and Connections
- Two Hour Delay – school is cancelled

Half Day PM Classes and Connections
- Early Dismissal – the PM class is cancelled
- Two Hour Delay in AM – afternoon classes will begin at their regularly scheduled time (12:00 p.m.)

Full Day Classrooms
- Two Hour Delay – school will begin at 10:30 a.m. and dismiss at 2:00 p.m.
- Early Dismissal – early dismissal will be announced on the radio and Seesaw
  - children who are transported will be bussed home prior to their regular dismissal time; a responsible adult must be available to receive them
  - driving families must be available to pick children up at the time of early dismissal

If your child is transported to school by bus, Dutchess County Early Intervention and Preschool, who provide the transportation, will post information on local radio stations regarding cancellations and delays for transportation.

In the event that Dutchess County Early Intervention and Preschool cancel transportation but MidHudson Valley Early Education Center is open, parents may transport to and from school.

The Preschool must have accurate and up to date phone numbers and emergency contact information on file, in the event of weather or other emergencies. If your phone numbers or emergency contacts change, please inform the school immediately. You will be asked to complete a registry form at the beginning of the school year and include that information and you may be asked to update this form as needed.

In the event of an emergency that requires the Preschool building to be evacuated, please be aware that each Preschool site has its own procedure for evacuation, which can be made available to you upon request.

Family and School Communication 5-c

The staff at the MidHudson Regional Early Education Center believes that communication between home and school is crucial to the success of your child in our program. We have spring and fall conferences at the school to discuss your child's progress, goals, and school and home experiences.

Plans are sent home with theme of the week, including vocabulary words, class activities, as well as activities you can do at home. This helps our families to better understand classroom activities and anticipate anything that may be needed from home. This also helps reinforce learning at home.

Families are encouraged to write in email, Seesaw or phone any time, especially if it may affect your child's day at school (e.g., a visit from grandparents, a family trip, a restless night, or said a new word!) Special concerns may be addressed by the nurse or psychologist, but the classroom teacher will always help you get the information you need about your child.

Non emergency phone calls may be made as follows:

Full Day classrooms after 2 p.m.
Half Day classrooms between 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We depend on your communication and visits to help us provide the best possible experience for you and your child. We look forward to an active relationship between home and school.

Enrichment Opportunities 6-a

The MHVEEC offers a variety of activities to support the educational and therapeutic program for the children and families.

We offer a variety of opportunities including petting zoos, music programs, movement and yoga and community helpers. We also enjoy sharing cultural celebrations and welcome families to share their traditions with us here at school. Your classroom teacher will let you know the calendar of events during the school year.

Technology is an important part of today's world. We use technology as another educational strategy to support young learning.

We use iPads and Smart boards for teaching as well as various devices to encourage and support communication and speech.

Code of Conduct 6-b

MidHudson Regional Early Education Center (MHREEC) is committed to providing an educational environment that promotes pro-social behaviors with respect to the individuality of each child. Our belief is that with using effective Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), we can preserve each child's self-esteem and integrity, as well as their optimal learning within the preschool setting. Our center has adopted the Pyramid Model, which is grounded in PBIS. The Pyramid Model serves as a guide for the development of healthy social emotional skills in our students.

The use of PBIS as preventative strategies is of utmost importance. Behavioral interventions should focus on the solution rather than the problem. Our goal is to teach the students what is expected of them rather

6-b

than what is not. This is achieved through creating natural, as well as structured situations, where students have the opportunity to practice and ultimately learn adaptive social behaviors in context. Through lessons and activities, our students will learn the appropriate social skills they will use to develop friendships and regulate their emotions.

Some of the strategies we use are:

- **Fostering relationships** with children and families that promote a sense of belonging and collaboration.
- **Encouraging emotional literacy** by helping your child to understand and express their feelings.
- **Providing predictable schedules** that reduce the anxiety and uncertainty that can sometime cause children to struggle with behavior.
- **Providing warnings for transitions** to prepare the child for change in activities.
- **Modeling prosocial behavior** by calmly teaching children to problem solve challenging peer interactions.
- **Positive reinforcement** is used when teaching prosocial behaviors. Appropriate replacement behaviors are taught and reinforced which in turn decrease maladaptive behaviors.
- **Reviewing behavioral expectations and rules frequently** using visuals, songs and activities so that children are aware of their behavior.
- **Providing the supports needed for each child individually,** in a way that will allow them to be successful in their classroom setting. (e.g.: visual timers, individual picture schedules, breaks when needed, specialized seating, preparatory stories.
- **Safety is of primary concern** for everyone at MidHudson Regional Early Education Center. We never humiliate, threaten, or intimidate. The Pyramid Model is designed to provide strategies for encouraging healthy social-emotional development and a strong foundation for all children, with increasing levels of support for children who need additional interventions.

Our program-wide behavioral expectations are *Be Safe, Be kind, and Be Respectful.*

For more information on the Pyramid Model, visit: http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/do/pyramid_model.htm

Classroom Routine 6-c

The classroom staff, which includes the special education teacher, speech-language pathologist, and education assistant/early childhood teacher, work as a team to develop a classroom routine that is designed to meet the needs of all the children.

Generally, each classroom routine includes:

Settle Time: Put coats away, hand in notebooks, simple table top activities and get ready for the day.

Circle Time: Discuss the theme for the week, pick jobs, and sing songs.

Play Time/Active Learning: Children choose from three or four areas, such as: blocks, kitchen, tabletop activities, art, transportation, or the sand/water/rice table.

Clean-Up Time: Children learn responsibility by participating in cleaning up.

Recall: Play activities are discussed in detail, such as: "Who played in the kitchen?"... "What did you build with the blocks?"..."What colors did you use in that picture?"..."Did anyone play in the water table?"

Snack/Lunch: Is an instructional period. Goals may include: socializing, feeding, language use, etc.

Toileting: Diapers are changed while other children go to the bathroom. Toilet training is an important goal of our program.

Story Time: Short stories are selected to reinforce the theme of the week.

Group Time: The children participate in a variety of small group. Such as art, music, gross motor, or language groups.

Recall/Good-Bye: In a large group, the children may sing a good-bye song to their friends. They also pick-up their belongings, and get ready to go home.

Parent / Guardian Signature Form

Please return to your classroom teacher promptly.

Child's Name: _____

I/we have read or have had the policies and guidelines presented in the preschool calendar explained to me/us. I/we understand the policies and guidelines presented in the parent calendar. I/we understand that these policies and guidelines define the standards and expectations for the MidHudson Regional Early Education Center.

Please check below indicating that you have read the following guidelines, procedures and policies:

____ **Non-discriminatory Enrollment/Admission Statement (Section 2-c)**

____ **Parent and Program Requests and Requirements (Section 3-a)**

____ **Food Safety Policy (Section 3-b)**

____ **Health Guidelines/Reporting Child Abuse (Sections 4-a, 4-b, 4-c)**

____ **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act/FERPA (Section 4-e)**

____ **Transportation/Snow Emergency Policy (Section 5-b)**

____ **Behavioral Guidelines (Section 6-c)**

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Learn, change, grow together

MidHudson Regional
Early Education Center
241 North Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
MidHudsonRegional.org/EarlyEducation

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

2023 – 2024 Important Dates

September 4	Mon.	Holiday / No School
September 5	Tues.	Conference Day / No School
September 6	Wed.	First Day of School
September 25	Mon.	Holiday / No School
October 9	Mon.	Holiday / No School
November 7	Tues.	Parent Teacher Conferences / No School
November 10	Fri.	Holiday / No School
November 22-24	Wed.-Fri.	Holiday / No School
December 22-29	Fri.-Fri.	Holiday / No School
January 1	Mon.	Holiday / No School
January 15	Mon.	Holiday / No School
February 16	Fri.	Conference Day / No School
February 19	Mon.	Holiday / No School
March 8	Fri.	Parent Teacher Conferences / No School
March 25-29	Mon.-Fri.	Holiday / No School
April 1	Mon.	Holiday / No School
April 26	Fri.	Conference Day / No School
May 24-27	Fri.-Mon.	Holiday / No School
June 19	Wed.	Holiday / No School
June 21	Fri.	Last Day of Preschool

2023 – 2024 Emergency Closing Make-up Days

If more than three (3) emergency closing days are needed the make-up formula will be as follows:

- If only one make-up day: April 1, 2024
- If two make-up days: April 1 and March 25, 2024
- If three make-up days: April 1, March 25 and March 26, 2024

Learn, change, grow together

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR
2023 2024

MidHudson Regional Early Education Centers

Early Education Center Main Office
241 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: 845.431.8803
Fax: 845.483.5688

Hyde Park Center
4246 Albany Post Road
Hyde Park, NY 12538
Phone: 845.229.6044
Fax: 845.229.0191

Beacon Center
15 Hastings Drive
Beacon, NY 12508
Phone: 845.765.2760
Fax: 845.765.2758

Spackenkill Center
23 Spackenkill Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
Phone: 845.462.0079
Fax: 845.462.0081

Bus Company: Total Transportation
Phone Number: 845.204.9660

Classroom _____

Emergency _____

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Early Education Center
241 North Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
MidHudsonRegional.org/EarlyEducation

Follow the leader.

Day care for children aged six weeks to five years

- Two Poughkeepsie locations
- Music therapy
- Yoga
- Recreation therapy
- Movement therapy
- Animal therapy
- Literacy-based curriculum
- Special programs as approved (speech, special education, occupational and physical therapy)
- Individual therapies available on-site, in community programs, and in-home

We're proud our day care program has been recognized as a leader in the Hudson Valley for children with special needs.*

We know every child is special, each with individual interests and needs. Since 1988, our holistic, child-centered approach, led by our experienced teachers, has helped children develop in a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment, allowing them to play and learn at their own pace.

WMC Health | MidHudson Regional Early Education Center
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

241 North Road and 23 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie | MidHudsonRegional.org/EarlyEducation

* *Named 2016 Day Care Center of the Year by the Dutchess-Putnam Child Care Council and recipient of the 2015 Award for Outstanding Special Needs Program.*

Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

VOTED DAY CARE CENTER OF THE YEAR by the Dutchess-Putnam Child Care Council

Call **845.431.8826** today to reserve your space!