



Middleburg Early Education Center September, 2018 All School Newsletter

Welcome, everyone! We are so happy to be working with you and your children. Thank you for completing the paperwork. For your convenience, there is a tray in the hall outside the large classroom for enrollment forms, medical forms, parent handbook forms, permission slips, email addresses, tuition agreements and fundraiser forms. We appreciate you returning the completed forms as soon as possible. If your address, phone number or emergency contacts change during the school year, please keep us updated. If you use your cell phone as an emergency number, please keep it turned on while your child is in school.

IMPORTANT CHECK INFO: If you pay your tuition by check, please be aware that our bank has enacted a policy for returned checks. Here is their official wording: “If your check is returned for non-sufficient funds, you expressly authorize your account to be electronically debited or bank drafted for the amount of the check plus any applicable fees. The use of a check for payment is your acknowledgment and acceptance of this policy and its terms and conditions.”

A WORD ABOUT FEET: Our students are very active during their days at MEEC. They climb and run on the playground, use balance beams and move around a lot in the gym. To be safe and able to participate in all activities, we are requesting that children wear tennis shoes. Please save the sandals and Crocs for times when your child is not at MEEC. Please dress them in washable play clothes, because sometimes we get messy!

PARKING LOT SAFETY: Our newly repaved parking lot has the addition of several parking spaces near the door closest to the classrooms. Please use the additional walkway in front of the new spaces to walk with your children to and from the door. Remember to drive slowly in the parking – the posted speed limit is 10 mph. Follow the directions to go in the entrance and out the exit.

PICK UP AND DISMISSAL: Children become anxious and fearful when they have to wait too long to be picked up after school. Please be punctual! Dismissal times allow time for brief conversations with your child's teacher so that you can hear about your child's school day.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Dismissal Time</u>
Great Beginnings	11:10 a.m.
Developmental Foundations	11:15 a.m.
Wee Three AM	11:15 a.m.
Wee Three PM	2:10 p.m.
Pre K	2:15 p.m.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE? www.meec.us. There you will find newsletters, field trip information and forms, the school calendar and lots of other good stuff. It's also an easy way to find out if MEEC is closed due to bad weather or other emergency – we post it on the home page.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! Watch for pictures of some of our art work and fun activities.

DO YOU SHOP AMAZON? When you log into smile.amazon.com and select Middleburg Early Education Center, you can shop as you normally would, and MEEC will get .5% of qualified purchases. It's easy and costs you nothing!

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL: We hope to have our email lists up and running by the time our October Newsletters are ready. You can help! If you are new to MEEC this fall or your email address has changed, please fill out the form and return it to the bin outside the big room. Using less paper is good for the environment, and helps keep tuition costs down by reducing our expenses!

FIFTH ANNUAL MEEC RAFFLE! MEEC is holding a fund raising raffle this fall. Tickets will be available for sale for \$20 each beginning October 3rd. We will send home packets of 10 tickets for each family – please do your best to sell them all! The grand prize is \$2,000.00, 2nd prize is \$500.00 and 3rd prize is \$200.00. In addition, there will be six mini-drawing winners of \$50.00 each. Mini-drawing winners remain eligible for the big prizes. There will be 2 mini-drawing winners on November 2, November 9 and November 16. The final drawing for the other prizes will be just in time for some Black Friday shopping – November 20!

SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS: Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 17 and Thursday, October 18 by Campus Photo Studio. There will be individual and class pictures. You will get proofs to choose from and price information after the pictures are taken. If your child does not have class on Wednesday or Thursday, you may come for pictures on either one of those days.

FALL FIELD TRIP: Wednesday, October 10 will be the all-school field trip to Red Wagon Farm. This Fall outing will include a hay ride, a hay maze, a pumpkin and a goody bag to take home. We will load the wagon for the hayride PROMPTLY at 11:00 a.m. Parents must attend with their children, and siblings are welcome. We will meet at Red Wagon Farm and dismiss from there as well. **There will be no classes at MEEC that day.** Picnic tables are available for families that would like to bring a picnic lunch to eat after the hayride. More information and permission slips will be coming home soon.

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY! Wear your MEEC t-shirt or sweatshirt on Wednesday, Sept. 19 and show your school spirit! Don't have a shirt or sweatshirt? Order one! Forms are available now! All orders are due in the school office by Friday, Oct. 5, and to help you remember, we'll have **another spirit Day October 5!**

All That Jazz And More! The Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band will hold a concert to benefit MEEC's scholarship fund on Oct. 21 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of Bethel Lutheran Church. Free admission, with a free will offering during the concert. Reception with yummy goodies to follow! This is a family friendly event – plan now to come!

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS allows its members to designate a recipient for Choice Dollars. Choose MEEC, and we will receive a quarterly donation from Thrivent.

UNITED WAY: MEEC is a United Way Agency. You can designate that your donation to United Way go to MEEC by using our code (50239).

WISH LIST: From time to time, we identify small items that would improve life at MEEC. We ask our generous friends to purchase and donate these items as they are able. Please let Christie or Cindy know if you can donate one or more items from our wish list:

AAA cell batteries

D cell batteries

Plastic straws

Large (9 inch) and small (6 inch), cheap cardboard paper plates for crafts

Cotton balls

Gallon size zipper close bags

Barbasol shaving cream

Velcro dots

EXTRA EASY FUNDRAISING: (More simple ways to help raise funds for MEEC!) Heinen's Teaming Up for Education - Use your Preferred Customer card every time you shop at Heinen's and help build a donation for MEEC. You must sign up for Heinen's Tasteful Rewards program and then designate MEEC as the school you want to receive the percentage from your purchases. You must sign up again every school year. It is all done through www.heinens.com. Call the MEEC office if you need help registering (440-888-9922).

FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY: Please do not allow children to play on or under the steps in the hall! Children must stay with their parent or caregiver before and after class.

BYE-BYE, MISS BONNIE! After 33 years, Miss Bonnie has decided to retire. We will miss her and wish her well in her new adventures. We are honoring her with a "Card Shower." If you would like to send Miss Bonnie a card or a note, please address it to MEEC, 7171 Pearl Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 and write Miss Bonnie on the envelope.

MEET OUR STAFF

"Miss Danelle" Eikens, Teacher, is the proud mom of two MEEC graduates. She has earned her Bachelor Degree in Special Education from Kent and her Master's Degree in Education from Baldwin-Wallace. She is also active in The Upside of Downs.

"Miss Tonya" Farran-Zaripheh, Teacher, has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education from Notre Dame College. She has many years of experience as a preschool teacher as well as coursework and experience in special education. Her gentle understanding quickly earns the trust of our students. Her five children are MEEC alumni!

“Miss Lynn” Figaro, Teacher, has earned a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Special Education from Cleveland State University. She has additional training in severe behavior handicaps, specific learning disabilities and early education of the handicapped. Lynn has been at MEEC since 1995.

“Miss Kim” Garvey, Assistant Teacher, joins us following a stint as a stay-at-home mom. She has been involved in the special needs community for several years, volunteering with Connecting for Kids. She has done countless hours of research and experience with my own children. Kim's kind and clam personality make her a great match for MEEC!

"Miss Sue" Kelly, Assistant Teacher, has been at MEEC since 1987. She has a Certificate of Training from the Ohio Department of Human Services and has also attended numerous workshops. Sue's calm and cheerful manner has made her a favorite with our children.

“Miss Sharon” Kobal, Teacher & Assistant Teacher, began working at MEEC during the 2000-2001 school year. She has had previous experience at the Hattie Larlham Foundation. Miss Sharon displays an enormous amount of love and patience as she works with our children. She holds a certificate of training from Ohio Department of Human Services and many additional in-service training hours.

"Miss Lynn" Kostura, Teacher & Assistant Teacher, has been at MEEC since 1992. She has a Certificate of Training from the Ohio Department of Human Services and many additional in-service training hours studying behavior management and preschool children. She is an expert at managing children in a kind and gentle way.

“Miss DeAnna” Lindsey, Teacher, has earned a Master's Degree in Social Work and has previous experience with ABA programming. Two of her three daughters are MEEC graduates. Miss Deanna and her family relocated to the Cleveland area from Pittsburgh, and we all think they moved in the right direction!

“Miss Jennifer” Morgan, M.A. CCC/SLP, Speech/Language Pathologist, has been at MEEC since 1999. She has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education for the Speech and Hearing Impaired and a Master of Arts Degree in Speech-Language Pathology. Jen has recently completed RMT (Rhythmic Movement Training). Jen has completed many courses in sensory processing disorders and autism.

“Miss Jill” Natran, Teacher, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Bowling Green State University. Her background includes working at Windfall School in Medina and tutoring at Huntington Learning Center. Her younger son attended MEEC's Summer Speech Camp when he was in preschool.

“Miss Sharon” Prexta, M.A. CCC/SLP, Speech Language Pathologist, has been at MEEC since 2000. She has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech/Language Pathology and a Master’s Degree in Speech/Language Pathology. Sharon also provides speech and language therapy at the Academy of St. Adalbert in Berea through the STEPS program. Miss Sharon is also certified in The Listening Program (bone conduction), and has completed Rhythmic Movement Training (RMT) and Brain Gym.

“Miss Christie” Scott, Director, served as a speech/language pathologist at MEEC from 1995 – 2004. She is a graduate of Ohio University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Hearing and Speech Sciences and a Master’s Degree in Speech/Language Pathology. She has also worked as the Clinical Supervisor at the College of Wooster.

“Miss Cindy” Todorov, Office Administrator, has a background in software support and enjoys keeping things organized and running smoothly in the office. She is an enthusiastic golfer and aspires to be a “Crazy Cat Lady” some day!

“Miss Pavandeep” Toor, Assistant, received her Bachelor of Science degree in Health Sciences from Cleveland State University, with a focus in Speech and Hearing Sciences. She was a volunteer for MEEC's 2017 Summer Speech Camp, and got to see how things work at MEEC. We are looking forward to her joining the staff!

RECENT DONORS TO MEEC:

Bethel Members
Todd and Cheryl Miller
Cleveland Lutheran Veterans Club
Susan Van Straaten

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 19	Spirit Day! Wear your MEEC t-shirt or sweatshirt
October 3	Raffle Tickets go on sale!
October 5	Spirit Day! Wear your MEEC t-shirt or sweatshirt. Orders for new Spirit Gear Due!
October 9, 6:30 p.m.	MEEC Board of Trustees Meeting
October 10	Field trip to Red Wagon Farm – No Classes
October 17 and 18	Picture Days
October 21, 3:00 p.m.	Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band Concert to benefit MEEC's scholarship fund.
November 2	First Raffle Mini-drawing!
November 6 and 9	Parent Teacher Conferences – No Classes
November 9	Second Raffle Mini-drawing!
November 16	Third Raffle Mini-drawing
November 20	Grand Prize Drawing!

