

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Greater Nanticoke Area School District
And
Luzerne County Head Start Program, Inc.

This Memorandum of Understanding is for the purpose of coordinating mutually beneficial activities of the parties involved to provide effective services for children and families served. This agreement shall be in affect from September, 2022 through September, 2023 and will be reviewed annually for necessary updates

Background

The Parties believe that Luzerne County Head Start and the Greater Nanticoke Area School District can create and maintain a meaningful partnership to promote school readiness and to provide the best opportunity for low income children to transition effectively.

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to describe the responsibilities of each agency and to provide guidance for coordination and cooperation between local education agencies and Head Start. In order to meet new requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requiring local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving Title I funds to:

1. Establish channels of communication between school staff and Head Start staff
 - Greater Nanticoke Area School District will continue to maintain active membership in Luzerne County Head Start Transition Committee.
 - Greater Nanticoke Area School District and Luzerne County Head Start will continue to collaborate by meeting regularly to ensure students are transitioned effectively.

2. Receive and transfer children's records, enrollment, parent communication
 - Student records will be transitioned to the home school by June 2023
 - Documentation of records received will be provided.
 - Head Start's Director of Early Childhood Education will be notified of students not officially registered at each home school.
 - A common collaboration time between Head Start teachers and Greater Nanticoke Area School District teachers will be provided prior to the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

3. Conduct parent meetings with Head Start teachers and kindergarten or elementary school teachers
 - Both entities will collaboratively provide opportunities to engage parents and students within various school and community events (Examples: Family Center Advisory Board Committee, Kindergarten Orientation, Back-To-School Night)

- The Greater Nanticoke Area Family Center will invite Nanticoke Head Start families to parent-child evening and summer recreation events at the school and in the community via its preschool kindergarten text information group and/or email
- Both entities will collaborate to provide family engagement opportunities to ensure an easy transition into the school setting. (Examples: kindergarten orientation, back to school night , etc.)

4. Organize and participate in joint transition-related training of Head Start staff, school staff, and early childhood education staff, as appropriate

- Pre- registration for Kindergarten will be held at the Hanover Head Start Location and Luzerne County Community College Head Start and the home school for the Pre - K Counts classroom.
- A collaborative effort will be made to provide support for the following screening stations: Academic, Speech, and Vision.
- A collaborative effort will be made to provide support to review medical records and all other required documents needed at the time of registration.
- A collaborative effort will be required to provide technology and technological assistance necessary to complete registration.
- A collaborative effort will be made to provide an interpreter for non- English speaking parents/students.
- A collaborative effort will be made to recruit students accordingly to their eligibility for the Nanticoke Head Start program and the Greater Nanticoke Area Pre-K Counts program.
- The Greater Nanticoke Area School District and Luzerne County Head Start Program, Inc. will collaborate to create informational packets that can be distributed to district families providing information on both programs, as well as other community based services, programs, and opportunities.
- Student from Head Start will also be provided with an orientation day, in which the incoming students will receive a tour of the Greater Nanticoke Area facilities.

5. Link LEA educational services with Head Start agency services.

- The Greater Nanticoke Area School District and Luzerne County Head Start Program, Inc. will coordinate efforts to ensure that families have the necessary information to access high quality childhood care and education.
- The families of the Head Start students will be invited to open house events, Parent and Family Engagement nights, Literacy Nights, etc.
- The Family Center Advisory Board and Luzerne County Head Start Advisory Board will include Valerie Bartle, Kennedy Early Childhood Center Principal, and Beth Kratz, Family Center Director.

Reporting

Both parties will evaluate effectiveness and adherence to the agreement annually.

Duration

This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the Luzerne County Head Start Inc. and the Greater Nanticoke Area School District. It will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the parties by mutual consent. In the absence of mutual agreement by the authorized officials from the Luzerne County Head Start and the Greater Nanticoke Area School District, this MOU shall end on June 16, 2023.

Contact Information

Dr. Ronald Grevera
Greater Nanticoke Area School District
Superintendent
425 Kosciuszko St, Nanticoke, Pa. 18634
570-735-1270
greverar@gnasd.com

Lynn Evans Biga
Luzerne County Head Start Inc.
Executive Director
23 Beekman St, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702
570-829-6231

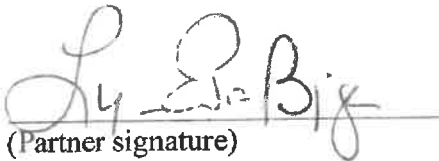


(Partner signature)

Dr. Ronald Grevera
Greater Nanticoke Area School District
Superintendent

Date:

6/21/22



(Partner signature)

Lynn Evans Biga
Luzerne County Head Start Inc.
Executive Director

Date:

6-21-22