



Cynthia Maher
Bedford Child Development Center
1619 W. Sterns Rd.
Temperance, Michigan 48182
bedfordchildcare@hotmail.com

December 11, 2017

RE: Response from Parent Survey

To the Parents of Bedford Child Development Center:

I have finished reviewing all the parent surveys that I received and first and foremost I would like to thank those parents who took time out of their busy schedules to complete the survey. The information I received from the survey was thought provoking and I wanted to give all our parents a response from this invaluable tool.

1. Cleanliness of the center: Overall the response was positive that the center is kept clean, but there were some concerns. For instance, the teachers in the infant and toddler rooms now use electric devices to clean the air in the classroom and take their garbage out mid-day if the smell is too bad. Also, we have been going through washcloths, and toys to ensure everything in the center is clean and sanitary. If you would like us to wash your child with a washcloth from home, please label the washcloth and put it in your child's bag and we will use it and send it home daily to be washed. I have also implemented a more rigorous cleaning schedules in the bathrooms and teachers wash down their bathrooms several times a week and wash their floors daily. If you notice the bathrooms dirty, please inform a teacher and we will take care of it! We also had our carpets cleaned in early fall and will probably do so again around mid-to-end of February depending on the weather.
2. Communication between teachers and parents: Again overall the response was positive for our communication between teachers and parents. There were some issues and we are working on those issues and hope everything will be in place by January of 2018. Here is what to look for:
 - a. Preschool 1 email at best has been sketchy and therefore we placed a Mobile Hotspot in the classroom to ensure parents are receiving their daily emails from the teachers.
 - b. Many of our teachers have also worked on placing a calendar of events outside of their classrooms to help parents know what is going on in their child's classroom.
 - c. At one of our most recent staff meetings we spoke to all the assistant teachers who may go in for a Head Teacher or another assistant and spoke about relaying messages to parents and finding out about children's days. There are communication logs set out for teachers to write down notes to let parents know about children's days.
 - d. Potty Training in Preschool 1 – I am hoping that with the Mobile Hotspot and the email problem no longer an issue, the teachers have been able to inform parents of their child's potty training while at the center. Please inform the office if this is still an issue.
3. Picture Quality: I am aware of the poor quality of pictures our tablets are taking and will be working into our 2018 budget to purchase new tablets for the teachers with better picture resolution.

4. Staff Appearance: Teachers were made aware of the dress code and name tags were purchased to ensure all parents know who the teachers are who are in their child's classrooms and playground area. We also make sure we post pictures on our meet the team board by the sign-in table.
5. Snacks: We are still working on implementing a regimented snack calendar that includes healthy foods the children enjoy and those acceptable by the state. The children seem to enjoy the oatmeal and pancake options in the morning and green beans, cheese and apples seem to be the children's favorites in the afternoon. We are always looking for other options so if you have any nutritious snack ideas, please let us know. The rice did not go over so well though! I have also spoke to the teachers about having more nutritious snacks at parties and birthdays and usually one sweet item. If you would like to know what your child's snack items are there is a calendar on the back of the kitchen door as well as most classrooms have them posted on their parent boards located outside of the classroom. I can try and work with my husband who created our website to find out if we can add the snack calendar to our page as well. Also, if parents have any recommendations for fun lunch ideas please let us know!
6. Upcoming News on the Classroom App: We are planning on implementing the app, Bloomz in early January. Each classroom will have their own page with daily activities, how your child's day is, their food intake, whether they nap or not, diaper changes and/ or potty-training info etc. We will start with implementing one class and asking parents to work with us as we implement the app.
7. Outside Events: Pauline and I have discussed planning some outside services for the center and will be planning some events in 2018. We did like the idea of having a BCDC bowling event and will consider that as well as having a Movie Night where our families can come enjoy a movie with their children outside on the preschool playground. We have electric outside, a movie screen that we can have installed on the building as well as the projector. Look for this event to happen in late May or early June! I am also planning on finding a dance instructor who would be willing to come in once a month with the children as well as a karate instructor from the community.

All of us at Bedford Child Development Center want to wish you and your family a safe, and relaxing holiday season.

Cynthia M Maher