

Gazette

"The purpose of education, finally, is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions." - James Baldwin



Letter from Leadership

- **Excellence in Everything:** President and CEO, Jamal Berry, has reinforced the importance of practicing excellence in everything. We will strive to be excellent in all that we do, from the classroom to meetings, to parent interactions and relationships!
- **Enrollment:** Enrollment: We are excited to be preparing for School Year 23-24 and re-enrollment has started. As a reminder, Educare DC serves students 6 weeks to 5 years old so your child has the opportunity to stay with Educare until they head off to Kindergarten. At our Educella event on for May 24th from 3pm-6pm at our IDEA campus. This will be an opportunity to complete your students registration paperwork for next school year, interact with some of our community partners, and meet other families and staff members at Educare DC. If you have questions about enrollment, please reach out to a member of our enrollment team at enroll@educaredc.org
- **Prenatal Program and Enrollment:** Learn more about how expectant moms can get empowered, informed, and supported by joining our Moms2Be prenatal program. Reach out to your FES, Perinatal Engagement Coordinator, or enrollment team to register. Visit our website today at www.educaredc.org/prenatal/.
- **Parent Policy Council Meeting:** Provides a formal structure whereby parents and community representatives can provide input regarding the nature and operations of the program as outlined in the Head Start Performance Standards and Head Start Act. We are currently recruiting interested in learning more? All families from all backgrounds and family structures are welcome to Policy Council. Training is provided, and dedicated staff are available to help you feel comfortable in your role. The policy council meets monthly in person and via Zoom online. If you are interested, please reach out to your Family Engagement Specialist.
- **Family Wellbeing Program at Educare DC:** The Family Wellbeing Program offers mindful parenting sessions and other therapeutic services to support the emotional resilience of families. Interested in learning more? Please contact your Family Engagement Specialist.

Important Dates in May



- May 29th: Memorial Day (School Closed)

Follow us on social media for helpful reminders and updates

 [educaredc](https://www.instagram.com/educaredc)  [EducareWashingtonDC](https://www.facebook.com/EducareWashingtonDC)  [DCEducare](https://twitter.com/DCEducare)



(In-Person at Parkside) Parent Café: Thursday, May 18

Cafés are physically and emotionally safe spaces where families talk and listen to each other on topics that matter to them, such as the challenges and victories of raising a family, navigating landscapes of inequality, enhancing well-being, or being involved in the recovery process of someone they love. Through individual deep self-reflection and peer-to-peer learning, families explore their strengths, learn about the Protective Factors, and create strategies from their own wisdom and experiences to strengthen their families. Families leave Cafés feeling inspired, energized, and excited to put into practice what they've learned. Interested in learning more? Please contact your Family Engagement Specialist.

Additional Information:

Contact Educare DC: Please call 202-727-5604 if you have any questions.

Remind App: Remember to utilize the Remind App, if you are not already - contact FES to help set an account up or if your phone number has changed.

Monthly Highlights!



Jamal Berry spoke on April 26, 2023 at the Under 3 DC press conference. He spoke about the importance of the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund and encouraged the continuation of financial investments in the program, along with other advocates who came out in support.

At our Enrollment Open House in April, our Comprehensive Services department had a food demonstration on how to cook ABC soup with all natural ingredients. The Comprehensive Services department also completed our hearing/vision screenings and our inclusion screenings at our 4 CCP sites.

The PreK enrollment event in April was held for transitional students, waitlisted families, and the community to come out and get to know Educare DC. We had a parent information session that discussed curriculum, family engagement, and future expectations. We also had a hands on activity, food, and lots of fun for the students.

Learning Tip of the Month ✨

"School bells are ringing loud and clear; vacation's over, school is here." — Winifred C. Marshall

As we welcome our students back from spring break, schedules may be off and mental alarm clocks may need resetting. Be patient with yourselves and others as we get back into the groove.



SHOUT-OUT!

"Shout out to Ms Tamisa for completing the first registration packet for a family " - Jamese Burke

"Shout out to Princess and Rouki for completing the Hearing and Vision Screenings in all our four CCP sites during the first 45 days." - Enrique Viejon

"Thank you so much for opening your doors for me and my team. Stacey - you were so kind to coordinate everything. Your staff was wonderful and gave us an opportunity to capture footage that we will use to support the EHS fund" - Dr. Deborah Bergeron

"I would like to shout out my team Ms. Davon and Ms. Boniece in Classroom 140. They go above and beyond and I truly appreciate them for all they have done this school year. Your hard work and dedication doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you for all you do!" - Tamika Hill

"Shout out team 150 for welcoming me into the program and for Ms. Ellis for her guidance. To all the teachers here at Educare You ROC!" - Felecia Jones

IDEA would like to give a shout out to Ms. Kiyana Morgan! Thank you for your willingness to jump into classrooms, provide educational support, offering to be a thought partner with the NAEYC accreditation, and coming to work with your beautiful smile and positive vibes!

"Shout out to the Administrative staff and the Development department, for being so pleasant to work with. Shout out to the Educare staff for providing endless supplies of candy." - Eliza TH

A School for Your Community

Educare of Washington, DC, is an early childhood school built to serve the children and families of Washington, DC. We engage and empower parents in their children's learning and provide high-quality education through small class sizes and cutting-edge teaching methods. We are also committed to evaluation and continuous program improvement through our partnerships with the Educare Learning Network, Head Start and the University of Maryland.