



CENTER-BASED NEWS

FACE News

Welcome to SY23! We hope you all had a fun summer and are ready for another great year in FACE!

For those with new center-based staff, we are once again offering our self-paced, online Center-based Implementation Training. This is a required training for all new FACE adult education teachers, preschool teachers, and preschool co-teachers and must be completed. In this online course, teachers will have the opportunity to learn more about the FACE program as well as their role and responsibilities within the program.

To sign up a new teacher for the self-paced, online Center-based Implementation Training course, please contact Vanessa at face@familieslearning.org with the following information: the new center-based staff member's name, position, and email address. **Be sure to cc: the new teacher on all emails to Vanessa to ensure they are kept in the loop about their participation in the course.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Amanda Evans for more information at aevans@familieslearning.org.

Families Learning Conference

Mark your calendars for the **2022 Families Learning Conference**! This year, we're shaking things up by holding a two-day virtual conference on October 25 and 26, and then hosting optional in-person meetups in Nashville on November 4 and Phoenix on December 2, 2022. Look for more information to come about a FACE gathering at the Phoenix meetup!

This updated format reflects the changing professional learning needs of our attendees. Polls of our audience have informed us that attendees want the high-quality content they've come to expect from our conference, but that they're missing the connections made by being in person. The virtual conference will offer dozens of highly relevant, curated presentations from experts in our field plus networking opportunities. Later, the regional meetups will be a space for connection, idea sharing, and action planning among a small group—each regional meetup will be capped at 150 registrants.

Registrants can register for the virtual conference only, the virtual conference plus one regional meetup, or a regional meetup only. To learn more or register, please click [here](#).



**September
2022**

Upcoming Events

Webinar: Social Emotional Learning

*Friday, September 30, 2022;
12:00–1:30 p.m. Eastern*

FACE to FACE: A Virtual Conversation

Month of September

Pre-recorded Webinar: Facilitating the EOWPVT

TeachingStrategies GOLD®: Open Office Hours

*Friday, September 9, 2022;
2:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern*

*Friday September 16, 2022;
12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern*

*Wednesday, September 21,
2022;
5:30–6:30 p.m. Eastern*

*Friday, September 30, 2022;
12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern*



Resources

Activate! National Early Childhood Advocacy Network

Supported by PNC Grow Up Great and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the [Activate! National Early Childhood Advocacy Network](#) brings BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color) parenting adults and early childhood practitioners together to work on challenges in the early childhood (EC) field. The goal targets equity in areas most affecting underrepresented families farthest from opportunity.

Led by the [National Center for Families Learning \(NCFL\)](#), the Activate! Network is recruiting 2-3 parenting adults and EC practitioner pairs from up to 10 different communities across the United States for its second cohort. Each pair (parenting adult and EC practitioner) will participate in network programming together. The parenting adult must have a child currently enrolled in preschool. This is a fantastic opportunity for FACE programs who support parent and family leadership and are seeking to amplify parent voice in the work!

Key details about the program can be found below:

- All participants receive a \$1,500 stipend for program participation and completion.
- Participants can expect to spend approximately four hours per month in the program.
- All travel expenses for any in-person convenings are covered.
- In-person convenings will take place in November 2022 and June 2023.



Interested? Please watch our promo video [here](#).

If you need more information, please email our program lead Patricia Bebe at pbebe@familieslearning.org to schedule a call, virtual meeting, webinar or to learn more.

Or, if you're ready to apply, please click [here](#). To apply in Spanish, please click [here](#). **The application deadline is Friday, September 16, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.**

Parent Engagement Ideas

Engaging Families Right from the Start

The beginning of the school year is here again and, as you prepare your classroom, think of ways to make families feel welcome from the start of the school year. Helping families and children feel comfortable in the classroom starts at the beginning of the year and progresses through the school year as you build relationships with the families and create opportunities for them to engage in the classroom and their child's learning. Kick off this school year with strong family engagement from the start! Below are some ideas to get you started:

- Make sure families have access to the classroom and school at the beginning of the year by hosting events for the families to tour the school and classroom. Where that is not possible because of COVID concerns, you can take the pictures and share them at an outdoor event. This allows them to ask you questions and get comfortable in the space.
- Ask families to bring a few copies of a family picture into the classroom. If they are unable, then you can take a picture and print it at school. Display the pictures on the wall or make a class book children can revisit when they need to. In order to keep these pictures relevant to the classroom community, dedicate time during a large group session to give children a chance to show the picture and share about their families.
- Think of ways to create two-way communication with families. Using these tools, communication can be open for families to express needs or concerns or you could pose an open-ended question like, "What is your child's favorite thing about school and why?" They can share the answers during Parent Time, through a weekly folder that goes back and forth between home and school, or over text or email. As you get to know your families better, you will know what works best for them. Most importantly, use this information to strengthen your relationship with the families in your classroom.



Site Spotlight

Ms. Hughberta Benally, Early Childhood Teacher, and Ms. Joanne Smith, Parent Educator, at Cove Day School shared some photos and moments from their summer school this year. They shared: "This summer school was very much needed. It prepared our students to enter PreK and kindergarten in the fall. They learned about routines/schedules, Circle Time to recite and remember, doing independent work, writing their name on their work, recognizing and learning the value of numbers, letter recognition, interacting with one another, and getting to know their peers, working together, reading together, and working alone. They learned a lot in the short time we had them, We thoroughly enjoyed working with the kiddos this summer!"

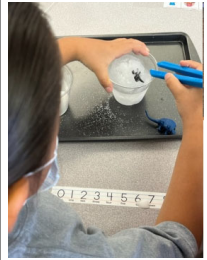


Ms. Benally started each morning with Morning Circle when children gathered on the carpet and went over their alphabets, numbers, days of the week, months, colors, the calendar, weather, shapes, songs, fingerplays, etc. Children learned the routine of gathering on the carpet to recite and learn foundational skills which would help them in writing their names, coloring, painting, days they attended school, counting, and recognizing numbers and letters.

Instructional time focused on letter and number recognition, cutting, pasting, and other fine motor skills. This is a time for children to work independently.



When children finish their independent work, they are given quiet time to work on puzzles, tangrams, and Connect-a-Cog, while other students finish their work. These manipulatives are designed to stimulate cognition, creativity, spatial awareness, problem solving, and play. Children learn through play. Ask children what they are creating or building; they love that. Interacting with your child in play is a memorable experience they'll never forget.



The last week of summer school centered around a theme of dinosaurs. They had students wearing T-shirts, earrings, shoes, and masks that had dinosaurs to celebrate our "Dino Week." We had frozen eggs with tiny dinosaurs inside, eggs with baking soda and a tiny dinosaur inside, baked cookies with dinosaur footprints, and made dinosaur hats they wore as they watched "The Good Dinosaur" on the last day.

Find what your child is interested in and do activities that surround that topic—they'll love you for it!

Resources

Affordable Internet Services for Low-Income Families

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is now a federal program that helps low-income households offset the monthly cost of a new or existing Internet service and connected devices like a laptop or tablet.

As trusted community members, schools, and districts, we encourage you to share this benefit with eligible families and caregivers. You can use the [FCC's outreach toolkit](#), with resources translated into multiple languages, as well as the [U.S. Department of Education's template forms and letters](#), to help families navigate the sign-up process.

The ACP may provide families:

- Up to \$30/month discount for broadband service;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop, computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider if the household contributes more than \$10 but less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

To apply, visit affordableconnectivity.gov or call 1-877-384-2575 to request an application.



Professional Development

Welcome to the 2022–2023 program year! This year, NCFL will be offering a menu of professional development options. These options will cover topics in the areas of preschool, adult education, parent engagement, and team. Be sure to mark your calendars with the options that best suit your interests and professional development needs. Please see the schedule listed below for all opportunities in September and October. We look forward to seeing you throughout this year!

September 2022

- **Webinar: Social and Emotional Learning**
 - **Friday, September 30, 2022; 12:00–1:30 p.m. (Eastern)**
 - This webinar is designed for practitioners working with adults and children. Participants will learn more about the CASEL Framework for Social and Emotional Learning for individuals aged kindergarten through adulthood, along with the Pyramid Model Framework for children aged two through five years old and how they correlate with one another. Participants will practice identifying CASEL components through scenarios and will acquire strategies to incorporate social–emotional learning in both adult and early childhood classrooms.
- **FACE to FACE: A Virtual Conversation—Preschool and Adult Education, Meet your TA**
 - **Month of September**
 - In the month of September, we invite you to join your NCFL TA in a fun, interactive meeting to celebrate the beginning of SY23! NCFL TAs will send an email with the specific time and date for your September FACE to FACE. We hope to see you there!
- **Pre-recorded Webinar: Facilitating the Expressive One-Word Picture Vocabulary Test (EOWPVT)**
 - Facilitating the EOWPVT focuses on administering and scoring the Expressive One-Word Picture Vocabulary Test (EOWPVT) in FACE preschool classrooms. This webinar reviews best practices for assessing young children, reviews scoring procedures, and guides scoring EOWPVT tests. This webinar supports new and seasoned preschool teachers and co-teachers to develop and refine their knowledge about the EOWPVT.
- **TeachingStrategies GOLD®: Open Office Hours**
 - Friday, September 9th from 2:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern
 - Friday, September 16th from 12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern
 - Wednesday, September 21st from 5:30–6:30 p.m. Eastern
 - Friday, September 30th from 12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern

October 2022

- **National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) Virtual Conference**
 - **October 25–26, 2022**
 - The Families Learning Conference offers a schedule of high-quality, innovative, content-rich sessions as well as opportunities for networking and connection. Join us virtually, in-person, or both to participate in the ongoing discussions and innovative practices surrounding family literacy, family learning, and family leadership! The October conference dates are for the virtual portion. For more information about the NCFL Families Learning Conference, click [here](#).
- **Webinar: Outdoor Play**
 - **Friday, October 28, 2022; 12:00–1:00 p.m. Eastern**
 - Join us for a discussion about the benefits of outdoor play. In this webinar, we will discuss outdoor play in your daily schedule, barriers to getting outside, and extending uninterrupted play outside. This joyful webinar will give you practical examples and advice on how to create engaging outdoor spaces.

Regional Trainings

We are excited to announce that Regionals will be in person this year!

The Regional Trainings will all take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October and November.

Be on the lookout for your email invite with the dates and more information.



Site Spotlight

Ch'oooshgai Community School is excited to return as a FACE site for the 22–23 school year! Our staff are eager to strengthen family-school-community connections and increase parents' participation in their children's learning. We have much to look forward to and are thankful for this opportunity! Ahéhee' t'áá ánóttso!

Look for a feature on Tohaali' Community School, another returning FACE site, in our October 2022 newsletter!



FACE Committee

A dedicated group of center-based FACE staff participated in the Spring 2022 FACE Committee Pilot and shared invaluable insights for the success of center-based FACE programming. With the success of the Spring 2022 Pilot, NCFL is excited to gather a representative committee of center-based FACE practitioners (teachers, coordinators, and/or administrators) again this school year!

While the COVID-19 pandemic has been isolating, many of us have gained perspective on the importance of communicating with one another despite distance and have increased comfort using new tools to do so. At the same time, networking and collaboration with other FACE programs continues to be one of the most requested opportunities for continuous learning. One story that comes to mind is the work of Blackwater Community School, Casa Blanca Community School, Gila Crossing Community School, and Salt River Elementary School FACE programs to collaborate to share resources and strengthen programming together.

In an effort to support more collaboration between more sites, this year's committee members will take the lead in planning, coordinating, and facilitating their own local event with nearby FACE sites. They will join monthly virtual sessions (October through May) which will model networking, facilitation, and collaboration strategies that can be used for planning and facilitating this type of event. Throughout the year, the committee will also brainstorm and propose solutions to challenges that FACE sites' center-based programs experience as they implement programming. For more details and to apply, view and complete this survey application by September 19 by clicking [here](#).

Webinars

For preschool teachers and co-teachers, there is a new pre-recorded webinar resource for you! The pre-recorded webinar, Preparing MyTeachingStrategies® for a New Year of Learning, will help you:

- Set-up your on-line TS GOLD account for the new year
- Become familiar with the NEW FACE Weekly Preschool Planner
- Get started with the first study in Creative Curriculum: The First Six Weeks

A link to the webinar can be found by clicking [here](#).

If you have any additional questions or need additional support after viewing the webinar, please reach out to your NCFL preschool technical assistant.

A new preschool teacher at a FACE school commented after that "it was a golden one! It was extremely helpful to me as a new teacher!"



Thank you for reading our September 2022 center-based FACE newsletter! Newsletters will be sent out via email at the beginning of every month. A complete archive of previous newsletters will be added to the FACE website soon!

If you have any news to share from your site, please send to your technical assistant or directly to face@familieslearning.org!