

Central Office
2850 Mt Pleasant Street, Suite 108
Burlington, Iowa 52601
Phone: 319-753-0193 Fax: 319-753-0687
community.action@caofseia.org www.caofseia.org
Sheri Wilson, JD, CCAP, NCRT, Executive Director



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Welcome Back!

Given the unique circumstances of the past 6 months, that phrase takes on a new dimension of meaning for many of us. We have learned some new vocabulary (social distancing, e-learning, PPE, etc.), new methods of serving children and families, the importance of regular hand washing, and to not take anything for granted. I do hope you had some time this summer to relax, reflect, and prepare for a school year filled with inspiration and creativity that will spark the imagination of all the children.

As we begin our new year together, there are many exciting things your leadership team has been working on to keep the focus of our work on the pursuit of excellence for our program.

While this past year was so abruptly interrupted, our 3 Program Focuses remain consistent moving forward:

- Improvement of Attendance
- Improvement of Instruction
- Improvement of Performance

We will be referencing these in every aspect of what we do to move this program from Good to Great!

Before we were interrupted by a global pandemic, we were beginning to make some real progress on attendance. Attendance celebrations, challenges, and goals in each classroom are essential as we return to ensure this progress continues and attendance remains a priority. Attendance habits formed now will strongly influence the children's attendance as they go on to elementary school and beyond. We need to work to ensure every child is **exceeding** the minimum standard of 85% attendance! This is a project for ALL STAFF!! Encourage your children, encourage your families, and encourage your staff to make a difference!

Improvement of Instruction will be the main focus this year. With full implementation of Creative Curriculum studies, Site Leaders on site every day, and the continued growth of our Instructional Coaching, instructional practice and thus student performance will show marked improvement. We plan to specifically target CLASS scores in the Instructional Support Domain, which has been historically low across the country and in our program. Growth in this and the other domains is essential to the success of our children and this program.

In the attachments that follow, you will find important program updates, schedules, calendars, and other miscellaneous items that need your attention.

You are all leaders! You are empowered to do the very best you can for our children and reflect on your current practice to bring about continuous improvement! Enjoy the remaining days of summer and I look forward to seeing you later this month.

Sincerely,

Matt LeClere