



School: ELC

Date: 2/27/2018

Time: 4:45pm- 5:30pm

Total in Attendance: 49

CAP Mid-Year Parent Focus Group: ELC School

We began with welcoming the parents and handing them a sheet with the questions we were going to ask so that they could have some time to think about their answers. The meeting took place in the cafeteria where a large group of parents participated. The questions and responses were the following:

1) Why did you choose to enroll your child in CAP? Answered included:

- Other programs do not offer the same convenience for working parents as CAP does.
- Kids spend time socializing and come home with homework done and this helps parents that have worked all day.
- Students struggling in certain subjects get help with HW they have a difficult time completing on their own.
- Compared to other options the price of CAP is very affordable.
- Working mother can be guaranteed that their children are somewhere safe and developing social skills.

2) How is CAP helping to support your child and your family? Answers included:

- Homework is done in time for dinner.
- The program is affordable.
- Helps families by having regular meetings to keep parents updated.
- Since the program is on-site parents do not have to arrange for rides and they know where their child is.
- One parent said that the first year she enrolled her child it was so that they could socialize, now it's her child's third year in CAP and she sees it as a much better option than having the kids at home on couches and using electronics. With CAP her child gets exposure to science and athletics. (3)
- Another parent said their child had never shown interest in art until CAP and now makes sculptures at home and is advancing in their art skills.

3) Does your child appear happy at the end of a day in CAP? Answers Included:

- Yes, they are Happy after a day in CAP. (All)
- Children come home happy that they got to play with friends and did numerous activities.
- Children are much happier now than they were in previous years.

- One child made friends in grades higher than his, something that only CAP would allow the opportunity to do.
- Children tell their love the food served in CAP, even the vegetables.

4) Do you find events like Exhibition helpful/enjoyable? Answers Included:

- Yes (All)
- One child who was 7 years old remembered the craft-making they learned from the exhibition and still puts it into practice at home.
- Children are more creative with an increased love for arts and crafts as a result of the exhibition. (2)
- Parents thought it was a nice event and their children were very excited about it.
- Taught children how to focus on projects and explain what they were working on. It showed their child's understanding and parents saw it as a good way to get their brains working. (2)
- Loved it. Very enjoyable and parents felt like they were in a museum.
- One parent was thankful to Gloria because his daughter wanted to do a booth about the science of tornados and Gloria encouraged it with open arms.
- Very helpful because it connects child, parent, and teacher.

5) Do you find the parent workshops helpful? (Topics so far this year: Mindfulness/Depression/Anxiety, The Dangers of Opioids, Healthy Parenting, Interpersonal Effectiveness)

- Very helpful. The workshop on "The Dangers of Opioids" was very informational and taught parents the dangers of prescription medications in the home.
- Topics are very helpful and helped parents form better relationships with their children.
- Workshops in the morning are difficult for parents to attend, evening workshops work much better for parents.
- The workshops structured around depression, anxiety, and stress showed parents how to unwind before speaking to children after a long day to ensure there are more positive interactions and showed parents how to cope with emotions without affecting their children. (2)

6) What can we do to improve the CAP program for your child and your family? Answers Included:

- Include parents more and give them opportunity to participate in the program in ways like reading to children or having career days where parents talk about their professions. (2)
- More activities like swimming, singing, and dancing. (2)
- Incorporate fire safety education and have a fireman come in and educate children on who they are, what they do, and why never to be afraid of them.

- Additional homework help for those who need it. One parent said their child rarely comes home with all their homework done because they need extra help in certain subjects and feel that it is done the right way in CAP than at home where parents don't know the material the way it's taught now.
- Provide tutoring for children that need extra help in certain subjects. (3)

7) Would you recommend the CAP program to another family? Why? Why not? Answers Included:

- Everyone unanimously answered, yes.
- Yes, because parents know children are safe and it's very different from a babysitter who wouldn't engage in activities with the children. (2)
- Yes, it is an excellent program. This particular parents has all three of her children in the program.
- Yes, allows children to develop their social skills in a safe setting. Parents have peace of mind at work.
- CAP is a huge help, aside from homework help, in comparison to a baby sitter CAP is more affordable, guarantees their children will be safe, have a good meal, and have exposure to healthy fun.

Summary: The parents in the work shop had positive things to say about the program. It seems that the parents' biggest concerns are homework and academic help with an individualized approach. They are happy with the program and all that it offers. They did not hesitate to say they would recommend the program to other families.