Preschool Director’s Board Report May 2019

* Hard copies of NAEYC surveys were distributed. To encourage participation, each completed survey won an entry to a drawing for a gift card. A summary of the findings is attached.
* We are getting excited for the Trike-A-Thon. So far CASTLE has raised $820 to help benefit St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital!
* ECCP has begun working with our full-day classroom. She has observed the classroom, developed an action plan, and given the teachers lots of resources. Goals for the classroom focus around promoting cooperation, helping children understand their feelings and those of others, teaching relaxation techniques, and providing individual support for transitions.
* As part of this service ECCP will provide a training to all CASTLE staff on our Staff Development Day, free of charge. Some of the preschool teachers will also be attending a one hour “behavior support group” at CES that is led by our consultant, Tracy. This provides a great opportunity for our teachers to network with other local early care providers and share strategies/ideas.
* Mad Science will be coming to CASTLE on June 7th during the day. They will do a hands-on workshop with both classes on the science behind slime!
* I have been working on reviewing our preschool staff professional development plan. I’ve been attending workshops put on by EASTCONN for guidance.

NAEYC Survey Summary

**Strengths**

Most respondents feel:

* That they have a good relationship with the teachers and staff.
* The teachers take good care of their child, helps their child learn to get along with others, and is a good teacher.
* Respected by program staff and that their contributions are valued.
* They are invited to take part in classroom activities and events.

Factors that contributed to families choosing CASTLE for preschool:

* Highly recommended
* Good reputation
* Good working relationship with and proximity to CES
* Accreditation
* Good hours for working families
* Older sibling attended
* Structured preschool program/well run classroom.

**Areas for Improvement**

Parent-Teacher Communication:

* Teachers sharing things that are happening in the program and asking about how children are doing at home.
* Regular communication about curriculum and children’s academic progress. (More updates than written assessments 2x a year)

Things families need more information about:

* How we keep children’s information confidential.
* Community events and resources that would help them.
* Transition to Kindergarten
* The steps to take if an issue arises.