

Report on Early Childhood Programs
Van Buren Intermediate School District
490 South Paw Paw St.
Lawrence, MI 49064

PARENT EDUCATION

*Vocational Technical

The Playschool Nursery:

- Parent Handbook
- Parent education newsletter.
- Parent group meetings - variety of topics.
- Parent teacher conferences.

*Early Care and Education Office

A.S.A.P.-P.I.E. (Family Links):

- Lending library of parent resources.
- Newsletters - Parents of children 0-3years; 3-5years; English; Spanish.
- Free Padres (Parents) Magazine widely distributed.
- Magazine articles on parenting widely distributed.
- Love and Logic parent education program offered (8 weeks) to general public.
- Parent Group Meetings - variety of topics.
- Parents As Teachers curriculum - delivered weekly at homes of enrolled families.
- Healthy Families curriculum - incorporated into weekly home visits by family educators where needed.
- Building Strong Families curriculum - incorporated into weekly home visits where needed.
- Presentation by Dr. Bruce Perry, nationally known speaker on brain research. Open to public.
- Notice of all parent education events on web page and distributed to families through preschool programs and home visits.

Van Buren County Even Start:

Some components are mandatory, promulgated by the William F. Goodling legislation as it relates to the federal Even Start program:

- Parents As Teachers curriculum - delivered weekly at home visits by family educators.
- Adult education lessons - delivered weekly at home visits by family educators.
- Parenting education - delivered at home visits by family educators.
- Parent and child interactive literacy activities - facilitated weekly by family educators.
- Newsletters - Parents of children 0-3years; 3-5years; English, Spanish.
- Free Padres (Parents) Magazine widely distributed.

*Special Education Services

Early Intervention:

- Parent Handbook.
- IEPs - Individual Education Plans. Written plan and group meetings.
- Parent consultations, referrals.
- Printed information regarding disability.
- Adaptive training to meet needs of the child.
- Parent-to-Parent support group.

Early On: (Birth to Three)

- Placemats at local restaurants with referral information.
- Education Fair each summer.
- Play and Learn groups in each local community - parents given specific material based on theme.
- Parenting newsletters. - Parents of children 0-3 years. Spanish (Birth-12 months.), English (Birth-3years).

- Parent representation on Advisory Committee.
- Countywide resource directory given to parents.
- Lending library of parent resources.
- Specific-topic parent training opportunities several times a year.

Preschool Cognitively Impaired Classrooms:

- Parent Orientation meetings.
- Handbook on program offerings, descriptions. English and Spanish.
- Parent information bulletin board.
- Parent Open House.
- Parent/Teacher conferences, twice per year.
- Therapy support staff schedule parent visits three times per year. Include ideas for activities for home, explain child's particular disability or challenge, provide Q&A period.
- PPI Support staff (Speech therapist and Occupational Therapist) reserve eight days at beginning of summer for parent appointments to discuss end of year, transition concerns - appointment, drop-in, phone contact, etc. Parent and child may attend together for modeling, demonstrations, etc.
- Routine phone calls to parents.
- Bi-weekly and monthly newsletters.
- Notebooks go home daily and weekly for parents and teachers to comment on child's activities, behaviors, attitudes.
- Meetings held on transitions to local school programming.

*Migrant/Bilingual Education

School Year Programming:

- Parent/Teacher conferences.
- Phone calls, notes.
- Pamphlets, printed parent education materials.

Summer Programming:

- Open House for center based.
- Printed material sent home with children.
- One-to-one contact with recruiters at home. Home work packets.
- Information on hearing, vision, dental and immunizations.
- Resource and referrals services available for parents.

