

★ Bunnell House News ★

UAF Community and Technical College Early Childhood Lab School

~ We nurture children and support families in a university lab setting.

From Paige

We hope everyone had a fantastic Spring Break and is ready to tackle the rest of the semester. ☺

Bunnell House is once again collaborating with music students who will work with the children to put on a spring music performance in late April. Music students will visit the lab school every Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-4:00 pm, beginning March 19.

Here's to a healthy, fun, musical spring!

~Paige



Tax Time

**Our EIN (Tax ID Number):
92-6000-147**

Monthly Fees

MTWRF	\$985
MWF	\$615
TR	\$410
Late Pick up—\$5/minute	

Fees are due by the 10th of each month. A late fee of 10% of account balance will be added after the 10th. ♦

Late Pick Up Fees

Late pick up fees are \$5 per minute. Fees will be added to your account based on the time recorded when you check out your child. ♦

Quote to Note

If we are not fully ourselves, truly in the present moment, we miss everything. When a child presents himself to you with his smile, if you are not really there – thinking about the future or the past, or preoccupied with other problems – then the child is not really there for you.

~Thich Nhat Hanh



Lab School Dates to Remember

April 9-12	Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 27	Spring Music Concert
May TBA	Ice Cream Social
May 28	Memorial Day Closure
May 31	Last Day of Spring Session
June 1	Bunnell House Summer Session begins
July 4 & 5	Independence Day Closure

Questions or Concerns

About your child or the classroom: *Teacher*

About the program, billing, withdrawing, or vacation: *Director*

Thank you! ♦

Why Did the Lab School Close During Spring Break?

We closed during the week of spring break in order to clean, arrange, plan, learn, and rejuvenate. Each area is important whether to keep us current with licensing, increase our knowledge and understanding of young children, improve our program, or to help us work better as a team. We are continually striving to provide not only high quality care for your children, but a rich learning environment for the university students who complete course requirements here.

Cleaning: We did seasonal, heavy duty cleaning such as scouring and scrubbing and sanitizing furniture, walls and toys.

Arranging: Teachers prepared their classrooms for the spring curriculum.

Planning: We met to discuss future activities of Bunnell House as well as strategies to improve what we're doing.

Learning: We spent a full day in training, including workshops on meaningful work for children and constructive play in the outdoors.

Rejuvenate: We spent time in group activities that helped us relax, share a laugh and support one another.

During our spring break closure we worked to continue the high quality you expect from us.♦

It was an exciting day at Lab School...

- ★ We shoveled snow!
- ★ We learned about dental health!
- ★ We listened to heartbeats with a stethoscope!
- ★ We celebrated Chinese New Year!



Parent-Teacher Conferences ~April 9-12~

Bunnell House Parent-Teacher conferences will be held the week of April 9th. Sign-up sheets will be put out at the attendance station the last week of March.

This is your opportunity to enjoy an uninterrupted conversation with Pammy or Chasity about your child. They will share examples of your child's work as well as provide you with information about your child's development. This is the perfect time to ask questions and receive feedback.

Conferences will be held in the meeting space at the top of the stairs (that's fancy for attic). You will receive an email reminder prior to your conference.♦

Manners...or not

Guidelines for children's table manners were first published in 1530.

Erasmus of the Netherlands wrote about the importance of instilling manners at an early age. "If you cannot swallow a piece of food," he wrote, "turn 'round discreetly and throw it somewhere."



Spring → Sun → Warmth → Wet and Muddy!

Please be sure your child always has a clean change of clothes, including socks, at lab school so he or she is always warm and dry.
Take heart—this messy time of year is relatively short



Benefits of Mud Play

Social and Emotional Development: Children gain a sense of competence through play. Children may play with mud independently or collaborate with other children. They take pride in their achievements and older children may begin to compare their own with those of others. Teachers ask questions that help children make connections between their mud play and the larger world.

Approaches to Learning: Children show engagement, spending a lot of time exploring their ideas, and persistence as they try various approaches until they find one that works (digging trenches to direct water flow).

Creative Arts: When children make mud pies and serve them to others or pretend to be alligators or swamp monsters, they are engaging in simple dramatic play.

Language Development: As children talk with classmates and teachers, they practice listening, understanding, and speaking. They negotiate roles (baker, trench digger) and practice new vocabulary.

Science: Children learn about how mud feels, smells, and changes. They add water and observe mud soup. They add sand and discover that the mud crumbles.

Mathematics: As children measure out mud for pies and count the pebbles decorating mud cakes, they practice math skills. They observe shapes and compare sizes of their mud concoctions or speed of the water flowing in their mud trenches.

Literacy: Teachers introduce vocabulary words to describe mud such as slimy, gooey, and grainy.

Physical Health and Development: Children practice fine motor skills as they dig, poke, scrape, pound, and scoop mud.

I once overheard a Bunnell House parent say to her child: “Mud is good!” I think that sums it up. ♦





Immunizations

If you are asked for an updated copy of your child's immunization record, please provide it promptly. In accordance with State of Alaska requirements, we are required to exclude children lacking up-to-date immunizations.

Soon-to-be-kindergarten-parents:

If your child has turned five or will be turning five, it's time for 5-year-old immunizations. ♦



Children's Music Program & Concert

Practice Days: MW, March 19-April 25

Time: 3:30-4:00 pm

Location: Bunnell House

Performance: Friday, April 27 at 11:15, location TBA

Children who do not usually attend on MW are invited to attend, accompanied by a responsible adult.

We're happy to have this continued partnership with the members of the student chapter of NafME! ★



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will take place May 1 & 2 at the school your child will attend.

Charter and private schools may have different dates.

To register your child, you will need to bring:

Original Birth Certificate (5 years old on or before 9/1/18)

Current Immunization Record

Proof of Residence (utility bill that shows address)

First Day of School

During the first week of school, kindergartners at most schools have a different schedule than other students.

The first week of school for kindergartners is reserved for special testing and individual meetings with the teacher, parents and student. This provides an opportunity for the teachers to get to know the students and parents individually. Due to these various schedules, kindergartners at certain schools may not start the regular school schedule until the second week of school.

Call the school your child will attend or the school district office (452-2000) if you have questions. ♦

Lab School Staff

- ♥ Director
- ♥ Upstairs Lead Teacher
- ♥ Upstairs Assistant Teacher
- ♥ Downstairs Lead Teacher
- ♥ Downstairs Assistant Teacher
- ♥ Substitute Assistant Teacher
- ♥ Office

Paige Vonder Haar
Chasity Evanow
Jenny Taylor
Pammy Fowler
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Connie Slater
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