



Durango Early Learning Center

THE DELC DIGEST

SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome to the 2425 School Year!



IMPORTANT DATES

- 9/10 Board Meeting 5:45PM at Early Childhood Council of La Plata County
- 9/16 Staff Meeting
- 9/27 School Family Time 10:00AM



- 9/3 AKsel
- 9/5 Jackson
- 9/21 Ody

Meet your DELC Board of Directors at our first annual Chili Cook-Off! Vote on your favorite chili made by our Board, raise money for the school, and spend some time with other DELC families!

More details to follow in late September!



Did you know that DELC is a 501(c)3 non-profit! We have a dedicated Board of Directors that supports the school and staff behind the scenes. We are looking for 3 parents, family, and/or community members that would like to apply for this position (finance experience preferred)! Interested or know someone who would be a great fit? See Becca or Emily for more details!

Check out the 2324 Board Members here celebrating our biggest fundraiser - COGIVES DAY! DELC raised over \$28,000 - the highest amount yet!

Afternoon Clubs Theme: "All About Me"

If your child is a 5:30 contract, they stay for afternoon clubs! Each month we have a different focus. From 3:30 - 5:30, children participate in a learning experience based on the monthly theme and then play outside until pick up! Each month we will feature photos from our afternoon teacher, Rebecca's, clubs. Your classroom teacher will include a photo from their afternoon club in their monthly classroom newsletter.



The children made self-portraits by decorating blank people to look like themselves. Below are some of the supported Colorado Early Learning Guidelines:

- Social & Emotional Development: 2.1. Recognize self as a unique individual having own abilities, characteristics, emotions, and interests.
- Logic & Reasoning: 2.1 Represent people, places, or things through drawings, movement, and three-dimensional objects.
- Creative Arts Expression: 3.3 Engage in the process of creating visual narratives from familiar stories and subject matter.

Conscious Discipline Corner

At DELC, we utilize Conscious Discipline as our social-emotional, school-wide approach. A huge component is the idea of creating a School Family. Every month we will connect with our school family by celebrating each class, birthdays, and our teachers with music and movement. Families are welcome to join!

SCHOOL FAMILY TIME
FRI 9/27 10:00 - 10:30

The School Family creates a healthy connection between all parties in the school. Through this deep sense of belonging, the willingness to change increases and power struggles and resistance to change decreases schoolwide. This context of willingness enables conflict to become an opportunity to learn missing self-regulatory, social and emotional skills instead of creating a constant power struggle.



Why Create a School Family™?

Caring relationships create an optimal environment for learning, alter the physiological state and prime the brain for plasticity.

Optimal Brain Development

- Increased neural plasticity
- Increased resiliency for at-risk children
- Increased development of higher centers of the brain
- Increased coherency with heart

Self-Regulation

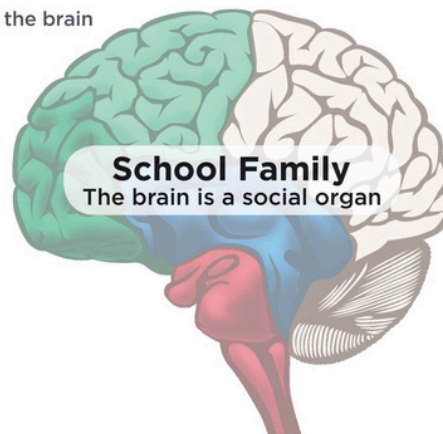
- Seven Powers
- Safe schools
- Bully-proof culture

Integrate SEL with Academics

- Joy in teaching and learning
- No separate curriculums needed

Optimal Learning State of Low Stress/High Challenge

- Increased test scores
- Increased teaching time
- Decreased behavioral problems
- Decreased retentions
- Increased attention spans



Positive, face-to-face, enthusiastic connection makes us smarter.

Problem-Solving

- Seven Skills
- Use daily conflicts to teach life skills

Shared Power

- Shift from control to connection

Link Home to School

- School Family extension of Home Family
- Children take skills home
- "Family Privilege" replaced if needed
- Experience healthy family model

Culture of Compassion & Caring

- Increased effectiveness of consequences
- Increased effectiveness of problem-solving
- Increased willingness to change
- Increased cooperation/helpfulness
- Internal motivation
- Increased impulse control

FAMILY TREE!

Send a family photo for our entryway tree if you don't have one or want to update! You can email it to Becca or send on brightwheel



Classroom picnics are this month! Connect with your child's teacher for dates/times!

REMINDERS!

- Tuition is billed in 12 equal payments September 2024 - August 2025 unless you paid the full amount up front.
- Tuition is due on the 15th of the month. September's tuition is due on 9/15. This is when autopay goes through in brightwheel.
- There is a \$3 per minute charge for late pick-up after your designated agreement (3:30 or 5:30). Please understand that we have to pay staff for overtime if we are not meeting ratio requirements for licensing.

Durango Early Learning Center Land Acknowledgement

Welcome to the Durango Early Learning Center. We respectfully acknowledge that the school is located in Durango, Colorado, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Ute (Núu-agma-tuvv-pu), Diné (Navajo: Naabeehó Bináhásdzo), Hopi (Hopituh Shinu-mu) Pueblos, Apache and Zuni (Shiwi'ma) People who have been stewards of this land throughout generations. As early childhood care providers and educators of our future generation, it is our responsibility to acknowledge the impacts of the unkind acts that have led to the unfair and inappropriate treatment of people that traditionally lived here and still live here today. We lead by example and share stories of this land that are respectful to the people and the real history of this region. As we teach our children, we strive to nurture a culture that takes responsibility for our actions, and is curious, honest, and inclusive to the diverse backgrounds in our community. #HonorNativeLand