Families and Schools Together
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Whether you have entered the Union County Public School Preschool Program through NCPK, the Exceptional Children’s Program or as a Peer Pal, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve your child. Our vision is that each child is honored, respected, and empowered to achieve success in school and life. It is important to note that preschool is a critical time in child development and engaging in high quality, nurturing environments at home and school can have a lasting impact on children. We strongly believe that all children, whether they have a disability or are typically developing, benefit from learning together in a community that is their school family. Just as children learn best in community, we believe a community of parents and caregivers who are learning together is a powerful way to strengthen families.

For that purpose, we have created a catalog of learning opportunities that are available to all families. Some opportunities may speak to families who are navigating the world of special education and some may speak to a broader range of interests.

Your child’s teacher will inform you of specific dates, times and locations throughout the year.

Please consider where you would like to join in as we work together to support our youngest learners.
Please join us for a book study of Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline. Cost of the book is $16 and it can be purchased through the Conscious Discipline website: https://shop.consciousdiscipline.com/collections/conscious-discipline-core/products/easy-to-love-difficult-to-discipline

The study will begin in October, but it’s never too late to join in. There will be a discussion board where you can share insights and pose questions. Additionally participants will meet as a group with a book discussion facilitator 3-4 times during the school year.
Online Learning
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)

If online learning is a better fit for your needs and schedule please access Triple P online modules.

Triple P is a parenting program, but it doesn’t tell you how to be a parent. It’s more like a toolbox of ideas. You choose the strategies you need. You choose the way you want to use them.

This free resource can be accessed by calling 980-314-9593 or emailing kevin.thomas@mecklenburgcountync.gov. You will receive a code giving you access to Triple P online.
Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive social and emotional intelligence classroom management program that empowers both teachers and students.

**Based on current brain research**

The program leads classrooms and schools through a process that promotes permanent behavior changes.

It is a shift from a traditional compliance model to a relationship-based community model.

Learn about the tools teachers use in your child’s class to support the development of social-emotional skills. Families will learn the language of Conscious Discipline.
The transition process from Preschool to Kindergarten for children with special needs begins in February prior to the Fall of Kindergarten entry. It is an exciting pathway to follow in preparation for elementary school. Below is a brief outline of the process in which parents participate with the Kindergarten transition team. Your child’s preschool teacher can answer your questions and give your further information as needed:

February: A student profile is developed by the Preschool teacher outlining the child’s strengths and needs. The profile is sent to the home school and any other school as appropriate for consideration. Permission is obtained from the parent to conduct observations of preschool child by school-aged staff.

March: Staff from the home school and any other school that may be considered for placement conducts observations of the student in the preschool classroom after parental permission is granted.

April/May: The Kindergarten Transition meeting is held with parent, home school staff and others as appropriate to review and update IEP components and determine an appropriate plan for Kindergarten.
The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program ® is a parenting and family support system designed to prevent – as well as treat – behavioral and emotional problems in children and teenagers. It aims to prevent problems in the family, school and community before they arise and to create family environments that encourage children to realize their potential.

**Seminar 1: Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability.** Practitioners introduce parents to the seven core principles of positive parenting. These principles are:

- Ensuring a safe engaging environment.
- Creating a positive learning environment.
- Using assertive discipline.
- Having reasonable expectations.
- Looking after yourself as a parent.
- Adapting to having a child with a disability.
- Being part of the community
The North Carolina Innovations Waiver provides services and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to have a life in the community of their choice, which includes where they live, how they spend their day, have fun and build relationships.

Waivers provide access to Medicaid funding for eligible individuals for whom states may “waive” certain Medicaid requirements. NC Innovations allows funding to provide community-based services and supports that promote choice, control and community integration as an alternative to institutional care.
ECAC is a private non-profit organization that is operated by and staffed primarily with parents of children with disabilities and special health care needs. It is a private non-profit parent organization committed to improving the lives and education of ALL children through a special emphasis on children with disabilities and special healthcare needs. ECAC seeks to provide information, education, outreach, and support to and for families with children across the state of North Carolina.

http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/
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Seminar 2: Helping Your Child Reach Their Potential. In this seminar, practitioners build on the foundation seminar and show parents how they can use the positive parenting principles to promote their child’s development by teaching them new skills and behaviors. The six key steps to teach a new skill are:

- Choose a skill to teach.
- Break the skill into steps.
- Choose rewards.
- Decide on when and where to teach.
- Use effective teaching strategies.
- Keep track and review.
April
Transition Fair and Exceptional Children’s Parent Night

Community Agencies Information

This event will showcase the organizations, schools/colleges, business and community agencies of Union County who provide services for individuals with disabilities.

Showcase of Employer Partnerships

Our Transition to Adulthood Programs & Wolfe students have joined with our local employer partners to present to everyone at the Transition Fair an opportunity to see all the various job skills that our students do at the job training sites of our business partners…..you don’t want to miss this!!! Participants will have the opportunity to also view the showcase during the EC Parent Night.

Employability Seminar

Venue for students in the Occupational Course of Study curriculum to demonstrate their knowledge of work skills in a competitive format.
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Seminar 3: Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behavior. Parents are often uncertain how to manage problem behavior in ways that help children learn alternative and more adaptive behavior to take its place. Parents are introduced to the key steps of how to do this.

The steps covered include:

- Tracking the behavior.
- Understanding why the behavior is occurring.
- Changing events that occur before the problem.
- Encouraging alternative behavior.
- Removing accidental rewards.
- Putting the plan into action.
Preschool

Exceptional Children’s Programs
Old Post Office Campus
407 N. Main Street
Monroe, NC 28112
Phone: 704-296-6370
www.ucps.k12.nc.us