

**Parent Information Packet**

Danielle Chenoweth

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## Welcome Letter

Dear parent/Guardian and Students,

Hello and welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Ms. Chenoweth and I am so excited to be your child's 3rd-grade teacher this year! This is my first year teaching in Howell Public Schools. I have recently graduated from Monmouth University and obtained a degree in Early childhood/ Elementary education with an endorsement in special education. I look forward to helping your child excel and have a great fun year.

My goal as an educator is to guide your child toward academic success and to help build critical thinking skills to help them succeed in their education journey. My part is to inform you when your child is or is not working to their full potential inside the classroom. I am dedicated to the well-being of your child and I need your cooperation in helping them reach their potential.

The class is going to work on these curriculum units during the year: mastery of multiplication and division and composition of paragraph writing. The texts are Comprehensive Curriculum of Basic Skills. Some textbooks remain in the classroom. Therefore, your child needs a notebook or binder containing notes and other assignments to help prepare for homework and exams. Tests are given weekly on vocabulary, diagrams, investigations, and content. Please help your child prepare for these assessments and sign all that are sent home and return with your child the next day.

Again, thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Together we will be a team for your child to look upon and make this year a great one.

Best Regards Ms. Chenoweth

NAEYC Standard 6A

## *All About Me!*



As you know my name is Ms. Chenoweth! I grew up in Middletown, New Jersey, and have lived there my whole life. I went to a private grammar school at St. Mary Elementary School and later went to Red Bank Catholic High School. After high school I knew I wanted to stay close to home so decided to go to Monmouth University to pursue teaching. My dream job has always been becoming a teacher and I love every minute of it!

I am 20 years old and love to hang out with my family, and friends and watch movies! My favorite meal is penne vodka with chicken and my favorite drink is iced tea! I grew up very active and played soccer my whole life. I love activity so it is incorporated in my classroom activities!

## *Contact Information*

If you ever have questions or concerns please feel free to reach out. Below I listed my contact information as well as the school's contact information. I check my email on an everyday basis but can also contact you over the phone so just let me know your preferred method!

Email- [chenoweth8213@gmail.com](mailto:chenoweth8213@gmail.com)

Phone Number- 732-000-0910

Schools Email- [Howellnj@gamil.com](mailto:Howellnj@gamil.com)

School's Phone Number 908-221-0878

School's Address- 123 Main Street, Howell, NJ 07702



NAEYC Standard 4A

## *Introducing 2023-2024*



***Principal:*** Mr. Greggor

Contact Information: Email [Agreggor@Howelldistrict.com](mailto:Agreggor@Howelldistrict.com)  
Office Phone: 800-181-9098

***Vice Principal:*** Mr. Brown

Contact Information: Email [Cbrown@Howelldistrict.com](mailto:Cbrown@Howelldistrict.com)  
Office Phone: 800-180-9091

***Secretary:*** Tara Johnson

Contact Information: Email [Tbrown@Howelldistrict.com](mailto:Tbrown@Howelldistrict.com)

***School Nurse:*** Maureen Walsh

Contact Information: Email [Mwalsh@Howelldistrict.com](mailto:Mwalsh@Howelldistrict.com)

## *School Supply List*



Hello! Below I am going to list all the supplies your child will need throughout the school year. I have no date in mind to have it all in but the sooner the better! Reach out if you have any questions or concerns and thank you for cooperating!

- ▲ Box of pencils (regular wood pencils)
- ▲ Box of crayons
- ▲ Markers
- ▲ Glue stick and scissors
- ▲ Colored pencils
- ▲ A pack of dry-erase markers
- ▲ Two folders
- ▲ A three-subject notebook
- ▲ Tissues, paper towels, and wipes for classroom

## *2023- 2024 Important School Year dates*

### **September:**

9/5 First Day of School

9/15 Shortened Day Session

9/25 School Closed

### **October:**

10/9 Closed for Students

### **November:**

11/9-10 School closed

11/14-15 Shortened Day Session

11/23-24 Thanksgiving Recess

### **December:**

12/ 13 Shortened Day for Students

12/22 Shortened day Session

12/23-31 Winter Recess

### **January:**

1/1 School Closed

1/11 Shortened day

1/ 15 Martin Luther King Day

### **February:**

2/6 Shortened Day

2/19 Presidents Day

### **March:**

3/12 Shortened Day

3/29-31 Spring Recess

### **April:**

4/1-7 Spring Recess

4/22-23 School Closed

### **May:**

5/24 Shortened Day

5/27 School Closed Memorial Day

### **June:**

6/17-20 Shortened Days

6/20 Last Day for Students



## *Classroom Rules!*

1. Treat others with respect at ALL times.
2. Listen to the teacher when she is speaking.
3. Be prepared every day with the required material.
4. Listen and follow directions.
5. Raise your hand.
6. Have fun!



## *Classroom Routine*

8:00-8:20 - Enter the classroom, unpack backpack, empty folder, check in, use the restroom

8:25-8:40- Start morning Do Now that is written on the board and listen for announcements

8:45- 9:00- Morning meeting; go over the day planned, what specials are today, and class business.

9:05-9:50 (Special always the same time every day!)

Monday- Art, Tuesday-Friday gym, Wednesday-music, and Thursday- library

9:50- 10:00 Restroom Break

10:05- 11:05 Math

11:10- 12:15 Reading

12:20- 12:35 Spelling

12:40- 1:10 Lunch

1:10- 1:30 Recess

1:35– 2:10 Writing Workshop

2:15- 2:30 Read aloud and writing skills

2:35-2:45 Pack up to go home

NAEYC Standard 6A

## *Lock Down Information*

Lock Down Drill Steps.

1. Stop what you are doing
2. Find and listen to the teacher.
3. Whoever is closest to the lights turns off.
4. The teacher Locks the door and pulls down the window shade.
5. Go and sit in the corner opposite the door.
6. Remain quiet at all times until told otherwise.

Unfortunately, we live in a world where we need to practice these procedures. Please go over these lockdown drill steps with your child and make sure how important it is to follow these rules for their safety and others.

To further their knowledge I am attaching a video that was shown in class but feel free to also show it at home!

NAEYC Standard 2C

📺 LOCKDOWN - Lesson#1 - PreK-2nd Grade - (SRP) Standard Response Protocol -...

## *Social Competence Skills*

Social competence skills are important in elementary education classrooms. We are working on our skills in the classroom but it is recommended that you also reinforce these skills at home. Below are some videos that help enhance these skills at home!

Our Classroom Basic Social Skills to follow are.....

- Listening
- Following Directions
- Patience
- Apologizing
- Sharing
- Respecting Others
- Cooperation

If your parents can work on these skills at home to teach healthy social skills it will help your child learn quicker and develop them more efficiently.

 [Best Networking Tips: How to Make a Connection | Indeed](#)

 [SEL 101: What are the core competencies and key settings?](#)

NAEYC Standard 6B

## *Clubs and Activities Offered at School*



Here at Howell Memorial Elementary School, we take getting involved very seriously! We offer a range of clubs, activities, and sports inside and outside of school. Below is a list of clubs and activities that are available to the 3rd grade. If you are interested send me an email and I will send you additional information!

### *Clubs*

- ▲ Chess Club
- ▲ Girl & Boy Scouts
- ▲ Lego Club
- ▲ Spelling Bee Club
- ▲ Science Club
- ▲ Dance Club
- ▲ Baking Club
- ▲ Theatre Club
- ▲ Yoga Club
- ▲ Gardening Club

### *Sports*

- ▲ Soccer (girls and boys)
- ▲ Basketball (girls and boys)
- ▲ Tennis (girls and boys)
- ▲ Track/ Cross Country Co-ed
- ▲ Volleyball (girls and boys)
- ▲ Baseball
- ▲ Softball

## *Family Play Activities*



Fun physical activities are just as important at home as in the classroom. When working, cooking and clearing get in the way it can be hard to find time to spend quality time as a family. Below is a list of some activities you as parents can try to implement in your household to have some fun bonding time!

- ▲ Family Movie Night
- ▲ Family Game Night
- ▲ Go on Family Walks
- ▲ Baking Dessert
- ▲ Go to the Park
- ▲ Eat Dinner as a Family
- ▲ Play the Wii or Just Dance
- ▲ And just have FUN!

Bonding as a family is crucial because life can take us in so many directions but ending the day in a laugh with family can make all the difference. NAEYC Standard 5A

## Enhancing Communication Skills

Improving communication skills in the elementary years can be a fun and interactive process. You can incorporate activities that focus on both verbal and non-verbal communication. Below are adding ways we can enhance communication in the classroom so you can prepare and talk to your child. Public speaking can be very scary to some kids so introducing them to what is expected can help ease the process.

Here are a few ideas are used in the classroom:

**Show and Tell:** Students bring in an item from home that is special or has meaning and share a short presentation about it. This activity helps them practice speaking in front of others and organizing their thoughts.

**Role Play:** In the classroom, we set up scenarios where students can take on different roles and act out conversations. This activity helps them understand different perspectives and improves their ability to express themselves.

**Storytelling:** This activity is used the most and entails having regular storytelling sessions where each student can take turns telling a story. This enhances their narrative skills and encourages creativity.

**Creative Writing:** The activity is made to encourage students to write short stories, poems, or even letters. This not only improves their writing skills but also allows them to communicate their thoughts in a structured way.

**Collaborative Projects:** Group projects are important so children know how to work as a team. They require students to work together and communicate effectively to achieve a common goal. This promotes teamwork and effective communication.

Below are some link articles I have read that seem to give great information about enhancing communication skills in the home.

### [10 Ways to Improve Your Grade Schoolers Communication Skills](#)



NAEYC Standard 1A

## *Ways to Enhance Communication between Home and School*

As a new teacher, one of my biggest goals outside of the classroom is building a relationship with parents. I believe it is so important that a child has a team behind them to support them. Establishing a trustable relationship is something I want as soon as possible. Ways that we can build this relationship is by reaching out when an issue occurs. I am a very approachable person so whenever you or your child is concerned or has a question please do not hesitate to contact me.



Ways to help enhance communication between home and school can be done through...

1. Initiate communication and be consistent with communication.
2. Email the teacher for clarification on something you don't understand.
3. Utilize parent-teacher conferences or student and parent meetings.
4. Look at the student work folder and assign and return.
5. Look on our school website for announcements and our classroom Eboard.
6. Remember both the parent and teacher have the child's best interests at heart and want the same goal for the child to succeed. NAEYC Standard 4D



## Positive Discipline Strategies

In an elementary classroom mistakes and trouble is prone to happen. Mistakes are supposed to happen because that is how children learn. Although mistakes happen it does not always mean bad consequences need to happen every time. Implementing positive discipline strategies can show greater benefits for children.




Below is a list of some techniques that are used in the classroom as well as what you can try to use at home!

1. Offer Positive Reinforcement
2. Redirection
3. Give Choices
4. Praise Good Behavior
5. Give Logical Consequences
6. Set Boundaries
7. Model Good Behavior

I am also attaching an article that I think is a really good read on why this is a good strategy to try in the home and classroom.

[Very well Family Examples of Positive Discipline](#) NAEYC Standard 3A



## Positive Discipline

Compliments	Family Meetings	Kind AND Firm	Problem Solving
 <p><b>Compliments and appreciations bring us closer together.</b></p> <p>Focus on accomplishments and helpfulness to others:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) "I appreciate how quickly you get dressed and ready for school."</li> <li>2) "I notice how kindly you cared for Anna when she felt sad, I bet it helped her feel better."</li> <li>3) "Thank you for setting the table."</li> </ol>	 <p><b>Children learn social and life skills during weekly family meetings.</b></p> <p><b>Format for the Family Meeting:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Compliments and appreciations</li> <li>2) Evaluation of past solutions</li> <li>3) Agenda items-person can choose               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Share feelings</li> <li>b) Invite a discussion</li> <li>c) Brainstorm for solutions</li> </ol> </li> <li>4) Calendar: events, meal planning</li> <li>5) Fun activity and dessert</li> </ol>	 <p><b>It is the AND that brings kind AND firm together to avoid extremes.</b></p> <p>Begin by validating feelings and/or showing understanding. Offer a choice when possible. Examples:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) I know you don't want to brush your teeth, AND we can do it together.</li> <li>2) You want to keep playing, AND it is time for bed. Do you want one story or two?</li> <li>3) I love you, AND the answer is, "No."</li> </ol>	 <p><b>Use daily challenges as opportunities to practice problem solving WITH your children.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Brainstorm for solutions during family meetings or with one child.</li> <li>2) Ask Curiosity Questions to invite your child to explore solutions.</li> <li>3) For fights: "You kids can figure it out. Come back with your plan."</li> <li>4) For chores: Brainstorm what needs to be done and invite your kids to create a plan. Be willing to try their plan for a week.</li> </ol>

## Allergy and Health Concerns

Allergy and health concerns I like to take very seriously in my classroom. I love to offer food rewards where children can bring in food or get a treat on Fridays when we have a successful week. For this to work I need your parents to inform me of what your child is allergic to and any food aversions your child has so we do not come across any problems. Health concerns are also a big issue to address so I can know ahead of time to prevent an incident from happening.

Please email me ASAP about your child's food allergy or any major health concerns so I can take notes and prepare in the classroom. [chenoweth8213@gamil.com](mailto:chenoweth8213@gamil.com) NAEYC Standard 1C

	<b>Shelby County Schools</b>	
<p><i>*All parents must complete this form and turn in at registration.</i></p>		
<p>My child _____ has a:</p>		
<p>Name of student _____</p>		
<p>Serious Medical Condition    <input type="checkbox"/> YES or <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>		
<p>Serious Food Allergy         <input type="checkbox"/> YES or <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>		
<p>If yes to Serious Medical Condition, please provide all details on the Alabama SDE Student Health Assessment Record in your Registration Packet.</p>		
<p>If yes to Serious Food Allergy, please have your physician or medical authority complete the Diet Prescription Form. This form is available at registration at your child's school or can be printed from the child nutrition website at</p>		
<p><a href="http://www.shelbyed.k12.al.us/cnp/forms/2001DietRxForm.pdf">http://www.shelbyed.k12.al.us/cnp/forms/2001DietRxForm.pdf</a></p>		
<p>Printed Name _____</p>		<p>Date _____</p>
<p>Signature _____</p>		

## *3rd Grade Vocabulary Words*

Vocabulary is a big skill to master to enhance reading fluency and comprehension and the best way to practice is by reading and going over the words. Below is a list of the major words your child is going to come across at some point over the year. We do have weekly vocabulary word check-in quizzes to make sure the students understand. NAEYC Standard 4B

### [Great Schools Vocabulary Words Third Graders.](#)

Additional	Event	Region
Agreeable	Examine	Repair
Argue	Example	Ridiculous
Arrange	Experience	Scar
Assist	Fatal	Scatter
Attract	Flexible	Shiver
Careless	Furious	Signal
Cause	Gathered	Similar
Climate	Gist	Slumber
Coast	Infer	Solution
Compare	Intelligent	Starve
Construct	Invitation	Stumble
Continent	Irritate	Tackle
Contrast	Marine	Tentacle
Credit	Mend	Typical
Culture	Multiple	Unite
Dangle	Nervous	Unusual

## *Dealing with Separation Anxiety Issues*

Dealing with separation anxiety issues can be a hard job as a parent. Most parents have full-time jobs and have to have time apart from their children. School can also be a time that raises anxiety. Establishing a routine and having your child know when it's time for school can help relieve some issues. If your child is experiencing any anxiety issues take a look at the resources below! I also attached the article where I got these tips so you can read for yourself! [Teacher Starter Separation Anxiety Tips](#)

1. Prepare ahead of time. Allow your child to know what is expected of them before it occurs.
2. Set a routine in place. Allow your child to have a set schedule around what is making them anxious.
3. Try to identify the trigger. What is causing the anxiety is it something particular at school or is it you going to work?
4. Create an easy drop-off. Quick easy and see you later to make it easier on the child.
5. Give students a role in the classroom that makes them look forward to dropping off such as helping the teacher or being line leader.



## *Preparation for Parent-Teacher Conferences*

Parent-teacher conferences occur twice a year in our school district. The first is in November and the second is in February. This allows parents to see how their child grows throughout the year and ask any questions they may have.

IMPORTANT DATES- November 14-16 2023 and February 17- 19 2024 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES.

[Kids Health Parent Conferences](#) Below are some tips that were mentioned in the article that I took out!

### Preparation Before Conference

- ▲ Talk with your child before the conference about any issues that may be going on.
- ▲ Come prepared. Make a list of any information or questions you want more information about.
- ▲ Be familiar with what your child is learning in class and for homework.
- ▲ Identify strengths and weaknesses that you see in your child.

### During the Conference

- ▲ Pay attention and listen to the teacher.
- ▲ Ask for clarity if you are confused on any topic.
- ▲ Do not be afraid to ask questions on topics.
- ▲ Ask for help if you need help at home doing homework or such.



***Tell Me About Your Child!***

NAEYC Standard 1A

What does your child like to be called?

---

How many siblings does your child have?

---

What are your child's interests such as hobbies or sports?

---

What are your child's strengths and weaknesses?

---

When is your child's birthday?

---

What is your child's least and favorite subject?

---

What is your child's favorite food?

---

What is a goal you want your child to work on this school year?

---

Any concerns or personal issues you want me to know about?

---

Please leave your contact information below and which is the best way to contact you!

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**Parent Feedback**

**1. Would you use these materials?**

- a. Yes absolutely. I have received a packet with so much detail and information about my child's classroom and school. I will be going back to this throughout the year and will save time on phone calls and emails.

**2. Which handouts weren't useful or could be improved?**

- a. I can not think of any handouts that were not useful in some way. Each is unique and gives great detail of information that is shown to be important by being accompanied by a standard. I also can not think of any being improved as they are shown with detail and great organization.

**3. What are some suggestions for improvement?**

- a. Personally, as a parent, I can not think of anything else to add or suggest for improvement. I have never been provided with such a resourceful packet from my child's school so this was amazing! I truly wish this was something each school did because you have no idea how helpful it would be.

**4. What additional information would you find useful to assist you and your child for the school year?**

- a. Maybe some additional information that could be added is some dates about family involvement. Maybe in-class parties or events at the school where parents are welcome so parents can plan to take off from work ahead of time.

**5. How did you feel about the way the packet looked?**

- a. I think the packet looked fabulous. It was very well-organized and eye-catching. I love the borders and fonts used to make it easy to read. I also found it so useful to have a table of contents to make it super easy to just go to the page you are looking for.

**6. Would you change anything about the design?**

- a. I wouldn't change a thing about the design. I like how it is super simple with not too much design

to distract from the point and it is easily readable.

**7. Did you find yourself needing more clarification at any time while reading this packet? If so, please explain.**

- a. No, I found myself knowing more than I did before reading it. I did not think of all these activities to do with my child. I also was never told my child's principal's email or number to reach which I thought was super helpful. I also liked adding the nurse so I could contact my child with allergies.



**Conclusion/ Reflection**

Building strong and collaborative relationships with the families of my students is an essential piece of my role as an early childhood educator. By making positive connections with parents and guardians, I not only create a supportive environment for the children but also establish a foundation for their development and learning. Effective communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to the well-being of the child are at the core of these relationships. In my classroom, I will explore various strategies and approaches to help establish and form these relationships with parents.

Ways in which I believe as a future educator I will bring great positive relationships in the classroom is by establishing a clear line of communication. This can be done through the parent information packet. Addressing a clear section that is highlighted with an email or phone number is important for parents to see. In addition, adding times in which are most available for quick responses and allowing time for phone calls or face-to-face meetings. In my information packet, I also made sure to add the administration names and contact information. Just in case there are questions I am not able to answer, having that on the packet will help save the time for them to search on their own. I also included the nurse's name and contact information for parents with any allergies or medications that need to be sent. The standard aligned with providing contact information goes with NAEYC Standard 4A, which focuses on creating a developmentally effective and challenging learning environment. It emphasizes the importance of considering the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the children and recognizing diversity within the learning environment. By referencing this standard, myself and educators can contribute to a supportive classroom environment that nurtures each child.

When building upon relationships with families I will make time and create space for parent parties, read-alouds, and cultural celebrations. By dedicating time and carving out space for these activities, I want to create a community that involves parents within our learning

environment. Parent parties provide a casual and welcoming atmosphere for families to come together, share experiences, and strengthen the bonds that support children's growth. Through read-aloud sessions, I will create a sign-up sheet for parents to actively participate in their child's learning journey, emphasizing the importance of literacy and shared storytelling. Creating a sign-up sheet will allow parents to pick what works best with them and their work schedules so each parent can come. Incorporating cultural celebrations helps to promote appreciation of the diverse backgrounds in the classroom. For example, highlighting the different religious celebrations, ethnicity, and other special days children have will help promote the idea we are more similar than different. This approach to collaboratively working with families aligns with the NAEYC standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships. This standard explains the importance of establishing relationships with families and communities to support children's development and learning. In addition to Standard 2, it also touches on aspects of Standard 5: Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum.

Through this very detailed process of creating a parent information packet, I learned how important it is to communicate all the information to parents. When putting together this packet I often thought back to my elementary years with my parents and thought wow it would have been so nice to have this. Oftentimes I can remember my parents telling me to “ask your teacher...” or the phrase “find out in school...”. It made me always feel like the relationship between school and home was just separate and that they were two different lives. It made me realize how important it is when I get my future classroom to relate to this and share this information with families for them to feel connected and not use the child as an information seeker.

Crafting a parent information packet as an early childhood educator is a learning experience that goes beyond collecting information. It's a process that helps my communication skills relay information in a readable language that parents can understand. Knowledge is power and when parents know what is going on they will overall be more confident which will have a

positive effect on their children. Understanding that assembling a packet is not just a one-way street but an opportunity to create communication. In addition to creating the packet, seeking feedback during this process is also crucial to address any concerns parents might have. An article called *Building Parent-Teacher Relationships*, by the American Federation of Teachers, explains “ Substantial evidence exists showing that parent involvement benefits students, including raising their academic achievement other advantages for children when parents become involved — namely, increased motivation for learning, improved behavior, more regular attendance, and a more positive attitude about homework and school in general”. The evidence shows that student academic success rate increases with parent involvement which makes it more important to be addressed in schools.

My primary goal as a future early childhood educator is to build family and community relationships for a supportive and inclusive learning environment. I plan to do this by researching and using my best judgment in the classroom. The first week of class in the beginning of the school year will be made for establishing classroom rules and procedures. With that this packet will be sent home to ensure parents and guardians know what will be happening in the classroom. Making time for this will help promote a well fiction classroom and for the students and parents to learn their roles for the upcoming school year. When establishing that communication I want parents to utilize back to school night and one - on - one parent teacher conferences. Knowing when these dates are provided in the packet will help parents take off of work and call the babysitter ahead of time. In addition, something I saw in my placement this year was my teacher having a google chat with each of her parents. I would incorporate this by sending important flyers just in case they get lost on the way home. It could also help for an immediate communication response such as the child will be absent in school or is not taking the bus home anymore because grandma is picking up.

Another resource I will utilize to help my goal of prompting a supportive and inclusive

environment is sending surveys. Just like I used in my information packet, including surveys is super beneficial to get feedback to help better for the future. For example using a survey on the information packet would help me look at it in a different perspective. It allowed me to see any flaws I had or where the wording could get confusing that needed some clarification. An example where a survey could be used is before back to school night. As a teacher I could send it out to families to get ahead count and see what topics they would want to cover more. If I saw many people were attending I could shift the way I was presenting and vice versa. As much help as surveys are to teachers they also allow parents to see that you care about their input which creates trust in the relationship. An article written on *Benefits of Using Education Surveys & Back-to-School Survey*, by Jasko Mahmutovic wrote “When schools provide parents with the results of a survey, more than 70% of parents believe the survey will bring meaningful change to their child’s school, this is important because parents who believe meaningful change in their child’s school is possible are 2.6 times more likely to be fully engaged parents. By distributing a survey and sharing the results, schools can greatly increase the likelihood that the parents of their students will be engaged, which can, in turn, increase student achievement”. After reading this article I was truly amazed to see the benefits of just using a simple survey. Something so easy to make in under 10 minutes has life changing effects for a parent.

As a future early child educator I plan to address social competence skills, promoting family play activities, enhancing communication skills, strengthening home-to-school communication, implementing positive discipline strategies, and addressing separation anxiety. The way I plan to address social competence skills is by implementing activities that work by listening, talking, sharing, respecting others, and following directions. In my parent packet I listed videos that parents can watch at home as well as be played in the classroom to give children visuals of how social competence works and what it looks like. Promoting family activities in my parent packet was done by giving a list of suggestions of games that they could

play at home. When listing these games I also described why it is important to play with your children as a family. Many of us work and have so many other priorities and allowing for that time to reconnect with kids is so beneficial. Even if the game night is once a week that child will look forward to that family game night all week because they know they will have your attention in that time frame. Enhancing communications skills is throughout the whole parent packet. The packet is made for communication between school and parent. In addition to the packet I will enhance communication by greeting each child at the door with a high five to start the day off right. I will also work my way around the classroom and try to have a conversation with all my students throughout the day. As well as when leaving I will take my kids out for dismissal and say hi and have a friendly approachable face.

In order to have a functional classroom discipline strategies need to be put in place so teachers and students know what is expected of them. In the parent information packet I attached classroom rules and procedures to allow parents to go over them with their child so they can reinforce the concepts. As a teacher I will also express these rules with a poster on the wall and reference them when needed. The first week of classes will be making up these rules and establishing trust between students and teachers. In addition to classroom rules and procedures to some students it may be overwhelming so showing empathy to students with anxiety or separation issues is important to note. Depending on the age in early childhood separation anxiety from a parent can be very hard to tackle. Understanding and coming up with strategies to help the student will promote the best success. NAEYC Standard 4D centers on creating a physically and emotionally safe and healthy learning environment. Emotionally, this standard focuses on creating positive relationships and supporting children's social and emotional development. Talking with the parent and discussing strategies to help with parent drop off can help better the situation. For example maybe the child would benefit if the parent walked him or her inside the classroom instead of at the door.

Sharing the parent information packet among colleagues provides a valuable opportunity for collaborative learning and improvement. By exchanging ideas and insights, we can collectively enhance the content and structure of the packet. The benefit of using your colleagues is having a different perspective and approaches brought to the packet. Allowing time for discussion of the packet can help everyone have input and say of their own on likes and dislikes. A way to collaboratively share this packet can be done by a google share document. When each person it is shared with can make highlights and comments throughout without actually editing until it is agreed upon.

Collaborative sharing the parent information packet with colleagues and friends can help bring new and advanced technology. For example I like to think of myself as very technically advanced but there are certain areas where I am not. If I were to share this with a colleague who knows about branding and editing she could help my packet look more pleasantly appealing. Such as adding in color or flyers designed to portray the theme in words. In addition we are both helping each other out and my colleague would also get to see the resources I used in my packet that she could take with her for her own classroom. As a teacher in a school you are a community and I like to think of saying one hand washes the other. It is no competition but to unite and better one another.

Overall a parent information packet serves many purposes. It carves a path between home and school life for open communication. Having it in a classroom should be a necessity because it has been studied and proven that it enhances parent involvement and when there is parent involvement students academic success follows. As a future educator I will ensure that I give out a packet each year. I will modify and accommodate my students and parents.

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