



August 25, 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Howe's Mt. Lebanon Extended Day Program. We look forward to providing a fun, enriching and supportive environment for your child. Our after-school program will offer active play, opportunities for socialization, STEAM and creative social/emotional engaging activities.

Drop off and Pick up: Please park behind the school near the playground entrance

Use Entrance C8

Center Location: Cafeteria

Snacks: MLEDP will provide a simple packaged afternoon snack. Attention is given to select healthy portions the children enjoy to hold them over to suppertime.

Programming: A variety of active play, science, nature, art and imaginary play activities will be planned for both indoor and outdoor spaces. Respect is a vital part of how we relate to one another at MLEDP. We show this in our regard for other's property, belongings, beliefs, and physical and emotional well-being. We are anticipating a year filled with growth, friendships, discoveries, and enjoyment for all.

Health and Safety Plan: We will follow procedures in the Health and Safety Plan at mledp.org to keep everyone safe. Please review the expectations with your child to help prepare them for MLEDP.

Technology has integrated itself into so many aspects of students' lives. It is so exciting! We will continue to use technologies at the center but will be very specific in times that it can be used. Many students have started to carry a form of a smart watch. We love planning active clubs that can utilize their heart monitors, step tracking etc. However, the messaging component of these devices is not to be used during their times here at the center. Please inform your child that any urgent communications from you will be appropriately handled by our staff and that they can focus their energies on engaging social relationships. We will not ask a child to remove their device until a continued interference is recorded.

Our theme this year is, "Who is? Howe KNOWS!" We will be battling books to discover student interests and learn about trailblazers, legends, worldly historical events and places, and so much more! We are excited to take steps into civic engagement and start a knowledge base for our students that empowers them to say, "Hey! I know about that!" We always love student suggestions, so start asking them what we should be ready to read!

Please check out the Parent Handbook and the full Health and Safety Plan on the mledp.org website for additional information.

Don't forget us! When notifying the school of any change to your child's attendance, please include us. This includes if your child is sent home early from the nurse or if you've been given any quarantine guidelines. The school does NOT report any of this information to us throughout the day.

Meet the Staff:

Amanda Murdy– Center Director– Starting her third year with the Howe MLEDP family and so excited to welcome back our families and meet all the new faces enrolled! She is a blended mom of four and lives within the district at Foster Elementary. This year she is preparing for her first middle schooler at Mellon, a professional 5th grader, new kindergartner, and little JJ will be the last man standing at home. Her undergrad is in Secondary Social Studies with additional certificates in Secondary English and middle-level math. Her previous work experience includes an orthodontic office, so bring on all the expanders and sore adjustment days! She loves being the problem solver for all of your students' concerns.

Susan Gentile– Group Supervisor–Can you believe that she has been here for 30 years?!? This marks the start of her 30th year with MLEDP. She has worked at almost every center and loves her time here with your Howe families the most. (Shhh don't tell!) This summer had her in recovery from a second knee surgery. MLEDP is so grateful that she is ready to return but knows there is still a lot of healing ahead of her. Her undergrad is in special education, and she always believed she should have added a reading specialist qualification or library science. Count on her for multiple trips to the library to keep your children reading what they love. She is a fur mom to her beloved cat, Hope, and loves all animals. You can always talk about your pets with her!

Sue Dzik–Group Supervisor–A HUGE welcome back to Miss Sue! She had started with us last spring and needed to step away to care for her family. Her son attends Pitt and she is currently writing a book about educational strategies to help troubled youth. She loves diversity inclusion and getting to know families to pull in student interests into her programming. With moving our Kindergarten Care program to Howe this year, she will also be working with their program in the afternoons beginning at their lunch transition. Any families with children at both KC Howe and School Year Howe will get to know her well.

And MORE to come!

Please reach out with any questions you may have. You can contact us through email or voicemail.

Looking forward to welcoming you back– MLEDP Howe Staff

Howe MLEDP Contact Information:

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