



August, 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Foster 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 on Vermont Ave. Parking in the school lot is prohibited. Use Entrance # B-2 (on the driveway side of the school). Press buzzer to the right side of the door, and someone will let you in shortly thereafter.

Center Location: Cafeteria. Walk down hallway from entrance.

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.

Our overarching theme for this school year is "Foster Extended Day Book Club". Over the course of the year, we will be engaging in activities that are inspired by popular children's books/series. Our activities will be connected to the characters, settings, and themes of the chosen book. Additionally, each month we will be focusing on a different social-emotional learning skill that we will be trying to "foster" (pun intended) at Extended Day. This skill will be connected to the selected children's book. Some of the skills we will be exploring throughout the year are friendship, perseverance, problem solving skills, and mentorship.

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

Meet the Staff:

Center Director

Mrs. Chelsea Kirkpatrick is so excited to be back at Foster MLEDP for another school year! She is originally from Los Angeles, California. She has worked in education for over ten years as an elementary educator, dance and drama teacher, and camp director. She currently lives in Brookline with her husband, 7-month-old daughter Lily, and her 1-year-old puppy Spike! When she's not working, she loves exploring Pittsburgh and finding new restaurants, parks, and museums. She is an avid reader, a board game enthusiast, and a lover of all chocolate!

Group Supervisors

Ms. Debbie Molinari has been at MLEDP for 12 years and is very happy to return to Foster Elementary. She is an avid kayaker, hiker, gardener, and cook. She has three grown children, a dog, a turtle, and three cats. She loves being outdoors, preferably on an isolated lake, or hanging out in local museums or at the Strip District.

Mrs. Sharon Riesmeyer was at Jefferson last year and is happy to be starting at Foster. She is an artist and former art teacher. She has lived in Mount Lebanon for 14 years where she has raised 4 children, 2 cats and a dog named Gus. Her adult daughters live in NYC and Chicago, and she has 2 teenage children still at home. In her spare time, she loves traveling to visit her daughters, creating art and taking advantage of all of the wonderful places that Pittsburgh has to offer.

Ms. Kristen Loudin has recently graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Psychology minor. She has recently moved to Carnegie, PA from Clarksburg, WV with her fiancé and cat, Percy! She takes interest in art, music, and outdoor activities. In her free time she is most likely exploring Pittsburgh, working on DIY projects, and traveling back to West Virginia to spend time with family and friends.

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

Looking forward to welcoming you back- MLEDP Foster Staff

Foster MLEDP Contact Information:

Center Email: foster@mledp.org

Center Voicemail: 412-344-6055