



August, 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Washington Center of the 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 Roselawn and Lawncroft behind the school building and walk across the black top. The gate from the teacher's parking lot will most likely be locked.

Use Entrance B-4

Center Location: Washington Cafeteria entrance B-4. There will be a doorbell to ring outside.

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 theme for the school year will be "Exploration: Unknown." We will be exploring the world around us through the things that leave us wondering, as the full picture is unknown. We'll ask questions about things lost to history, the mysteries of space and the oceans, and other questions that inspire us to think as big as possible. Our first theme week will be focusing on dreams and those questions that are still unanswered. As part of our first week, we are doing an activity creating a summer dreams bulletin board. If you're willing, we are asking for a picture of a highlight of your child's summer that may have appeared in their dreams. We look forward to seeing a snapshot of each child's experiences. Additionally, we also invite family and friends to stop in and share with us their life experiences throughout the year. Please let us know if you would like to visit, a guest speaker is always great fun!

Our staff members are happy to assist children with homework or class projects, though we do not tutor. There will be an information form for you to sign in our parent area to allow us to speak with the Washington school staff for those purposes. You will sign in using the ProCare system on the iPad. You should have received an invitation to the ProCare app. If you are not on the app, please have your PIN ready. If you experience any issues, staff will be there to assist you. Please allow for a few extra moments for this process. Bring your ID with you for the first few days as we get to know names and faces.

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

Meet the Staff:

Peter Yohe, Center Director:

Peter is an MLEDP veteran with many years in the program and is ready for his fourth run here at Washington. He's excited to bring his love of learning and knowledge to another school year. With a background in theater arts, he's got great passion for history, the arts, world cultures, and the environment. Peter fosters a curiosity and desire to discover for themselves in a way that kids are unaware learning is taking place amid the fun. His great-aunt was a former fourth-grade teacher at Washington many years ago, and he is pleased to be able to continue a small family legacy of quality education at a quality school. Peter looks forward to meeting all the new kids and families and encourages kids and families alike to freely ask any questions and introduce themselves!

Judy Hamilton, Group Supervisor:

Judy earned her Bachelor of Education from Bowling Green University in Ohio. Judy taught elementary school in Cleveland before moving to Mt. Lebanon. She and her family have been residents of Mt. Lebanon for 50 years. Judy and George are the proud parents of one daughter and three grandsons. Judy left teaching to become an assistant director of education video productions for Fortune 500 Construction Industry Companies. Upon retirement she turned her interests back to education and joined the MLEDP staff. She will be starting her 10th year at Washington Elementary.

Holly Borz, Group Supervisor:

Holly is a Carlow University graduate with a degree in History and a teaching certification in Secondary Education. She is currently finishing her master's degree in special education (K-12) at Point Park University. Born in Guatemala, adopted and raised in Bethel Park, Miss Holly has always been surrounded by educators and the desire to teach. Both of her parents are retired teachers who specialized in Math, Social Studies, English, and Special Education. Like an Olympic Torch, their passion to teach was passed onto her, as she strives to be the best teacher she can be! Outside of teaching, she has a wide range of interests. She enjoys reading a multitude of genres and is always willing for any recommendations to add to her ever growing "To Be Read" list. With a strong interest in the language and culture, she is also in the process of learning Japanese. Her goal with that is to one day achieve her N5 translator certification. Holly loves all animals and is always willing to talk to anyone about any of their "fur babies". She is a proud dog mom of a 6-year-old shepherd mix named Shadow and 3 wonderful cats named Kitten, Dora, and Willow. This will be her second full school year at MLEDP. This past summer was her second time at the MLEDP Summer Fun program. She looks forward to working and having fun with the kids this school year!

John Bedortha, Group Supervisor.

John is a Mount Lebanon native with a passion for art, music, and creative expression. A graduate of Point Park University and self-taught painter, he has been a resident artist at Redfishbowl Studio in Lawrenceville for over four years. He has also worked as a teaching artist at multiple non-profits, including Chatham University's Music and Arts Day Camp. Jack-of-all-trades and master of some, his background also includes work in floral design, events, graphic design, DJing, and creative positions in three fashion shows. He brings a zealous passion and energy to all his work and emphasizes creative expression over technical skill. John loves to share his experience and joy with children through the arts and will eventually seek a master's degree to teach art full time.

Lyndsey Fisher, MLEDP Staff

Hi! My name is Lyndsey Fisher. I am from South Park. I recently graduated from Community College of Allegheny County in May of 2024. I majored in Science & Early education and childhood development. Some of my favorite hobbies are building Lego sets & going to see new movies and reading books.

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

Looking forward to welcoming you back- MLEDP Washington Staff

Washington MLEDP Contact Information:

Center Email: washington@mledp.org

Center Voicemail: 412-344-6106