



*Spring 2024*



**Medford  
Early Childhood  
Family Education**

*Hand in Hand Building Strong Families*



**Medford Public School ISD #763**

**Home of the Tigers**

[www.medford.k12.mn.us/page/2723](http://www.medford.k12.mn.us/page/2723)

## **Early Childhood Family Education**

(ECFE) is a Community education program for parents and their children between birth and kindergarten enrollment. Because parents are a child's first and most important teachers, this program is designed to support and strengthen every family. ECFE is a fun place to find new friends and make the most of the early years of life. We offer a variety of classes and special events. Join us soon!

To Register for an ECFE class or event:

1. Complete a registration form.

<http://www.medford.k12.mn.us/page/3054>

2. Mail your registration or bring it to the Community Ed. Office, located near the high school gym.

3. All families are welcome! No one will be denied participation due to an inability to pay. Those earning less than \$30,000/yr. would qualify for reduced fees on parent-child classes.

4. If you have any questions, please contact the ECFE coordinator at (507) 213-6380 or email at [abierlen@medfordtigers.org](mailto:abierlen@medfordtigers.org)

### **Early Childhood Lending Library**

All families are welcome to checkout resources from the ECFE Lending Library! We have a great collection of parenting, family, & kid's books, videos, CDs and DVDs, including many Love & Logic selections! The library is open during the school day, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and during ECFE classes, and is located in Rm. 403.



### **Books & Bibs**



Have you had a new addition to your family during the past 12 months? We would love to know so we can welcome him or her with our gift of a book and a 'Lil Tiger bib! This also gives you the opportunity to update your family's listing on our census list which we use for sharing important info (early childhood screening, preschool and kindergarten registrations ....)

Please call the ECFE office at 214-6380 or email [abierlen@medfordtigers.org](mailto:abierlen@medfordtigers.org)



## Early Childhood Screening

**Does my child need Early Childhood Screening?** Yes! All Minnesota children need Early Childhood Screening. It is recommended at age three and is required for kindergarten, and it also helps identify potential problems in your child's health and development. It is also a perfect time to find out about what early learning opportunities are available for your child, and to make sure the right supports are available to help your child learn and grow.

Early Childhood Screening is not a part of Medford Preschool.

**What is Early Childhood Screening?** Early Childhood Screening is a free program in Minnesota that checks how a child is developing and growing. Early Childhood Screening is a brief, simple process used to identify potential health or developmental problems in young children. Screening in early childhood supports children's readiness for kindergarten and promotes positive child health and developmental outcomes through referrals to early learning opportunities.

**When should I schedule an Early Childhood Screening?** The Early Childhood Screening program is available to children when they turn three years old. It is required before a child starts kindergarten, or must take place within 30 days of when a child starts kindergarten. Although your child may be screened any time before kindergarten, it is best to do it at age three or four so that any health or developmental concerns can be addressed sooner.

**What happens during an Early Childhood Screening?** An Early Childhood Screening checks your child's health and development. It includes a review of height, weight, vision, hearing, speech, social and emotional progress and overall development. Screening is tailored to the age of the child so that a three-year-old is only asked for what is developmentally appropriate for their age.

**How do I schedule an Early Childhood Screening?** To schedule an Early Childhood Screening here is the contact information for Medford Public School, contact them asap!

**Early Childhood Screening Coordinator:** Jackie Vagle

Phone Number: 507-214-6380

Email: [jvagle@medfordtigers.org](mailto:jvagle@medfordtigers.org)

Some children need extra help to learn and grow. Help Me Grow is a Minnesota state initiative that connects children with developmental delays and disabilities and their families to free, local early intervention services.

If you have a concern about a child's development, you can refer the child through Help Me Grow for a free screening or evaluation. Services are free to eligible children ages birth-5, regardless of income or immigrant status.

Help Me Grow's website, [helpmegrowmn.org](http://helpmegrowmn.org), offers valuable information to help parents and caregivers understand a child's development. Resources include developmental milestones, strategies to encourage development and information about referrals. To refer a child, visit [helpmegrowmn.org](http://helpmegrowmn.org) or call 866-693-GROW (4769).



# Ages 0-4 Medford Early Childhood Census

Do you have children ages 0-4 and live in the Medford Community?

*If so, please get your child on our school census!*

Districts are required to report the number of resident children ages 0-4. This data is necessary in order to calculate funding for the School Readiness Program (Minn. Stat. 124D.16) and the Early Childhood Family Education Program (Minn. Stat. 124D.135). This information is also used by the elementary office to send out information regarding **Kindergarten Registration**.

Information Needed:

Parent/Guardian names

Address (include house number, street address, city and zip code)

Parent's Phone numbers

Parent's Email addresses

Children's name, birthday, age, gender

Contact information:

Jackie Vagle at 507-214-6380 or at [jvagle@medfordtigers.org](mailto:jvagle@medfordtigers.org)



*Scan the QR Code to automatically fill out  
the needed information*

## ***Medford Early Childhood Advisory Council***

**What is it?** The advisory council is made up of a group of parents, staff, and community members who care about the future of Early Childhood programs in the Medford School District.

**Who can join?** Any interested parent who has a child (or children) involved in either the Medford Preschool or Early Childhood Family Education program. Interested community members are also welcome to join.

**Why be involved?** Involvement provided the opportunity to have a voice in local early childhood activities and programs. The advisory council meets to brainstorm ideas for new classes and special events, and offer advice for functions of both the Medford Preschool and the Medford Early Childhood Family Education program.

**What kind of time commitment is involved?** Meeting dates for this year are: **September 25th, November 6th, January 15th, March 25th & May 6th** and last approx. 1- 1 ½ hours. Depending on selected activities, committees form and meet as needed. Time commitments are respectful of the fact that you are parents first and foremost.

**How can I find out more?** Attend our next meeting; or talk with Angie Bierlen, ECFE/School Readiness Coordinator, (507) 214-6380 or email [abierlen@medfordtigers.org](mailto:abierlen@medfordtigers.org)

## **Join us on Facebook**

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Like **Medford ECFE & Preschool** on Facebook to receive all the latest news, announcements, pictures and more!





# Medford Preschool



Providing young children  
a warm, child-centered environment  
for promoting age-appropriate  
social, emotional, physical and intellectual  
development.

## 2024-2025 Preschool Registration!

***We missed you at Registration night and we are looking  
for more friends to join us at Medford Preschool!***

Medford Preschool  
750 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE  
Room # 403



**\*SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR ALL Or UP TO HALF OF PRESCHOOL  
(If you financially qualify)**

## 2024-2025 Class Information

The Medford Preschool welcomes all children 3 or 4 years of age by September 1, or children not yet attending Kindergarten.  
**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE COMPLETELY TOILET TRAINED IN ORDER TO ATTEND PRESCHOOL!**

Section A: 8:00-11:00 a.m. M/W/F (4-5 year olds)

Section B: 12:15-3:00 p.m. M-Th (4-5 year olds)

Section C: 8:00-10:45 a.m. T/Th (3-4 year olds)



*At Medford Preschool we value  
parents and teachers working  
together toward a common  
goal; getting your child  
kindergarten ready!*



**4 Star Parent Aware Rated**

**Proud to use practices that best prepare children for kindergarten**

# ECFE Classes & Events

## St. Patrick's Day Party:

Wear green and come ready for a fun—filled class themed around all things St. Patrick's Day!

**Date:** Thursday, March 21st

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 1 - 7 years old

**Fee:** \$6.00 per child

**Place:** Medford Elem. Rm 403

**Registration Deadline:** Monday, March 18th

## Easter Fun:

Easter is going to be here before you know it. Let's celebrate everything Easter with decorating, art work, songs and stories. We will have a hopping good time!

**Date:** Tuesday, March 26th

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 1 - 7 years old

**Fee:** \$6.00 per child

**Place:** Medford Elem. Rm 403

**Registration Deadline:** Wednesday, March 20th

## "Is it Spring Yet?":

Spring is such an exciting time of the year! Come explore Spring with us! We'll go outside and see the changes (if weather and light permit). We also will sing songs, read stories and do crafts all centered around Spring.

**Date:** Thursday, April 18th

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. —7:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 1 -7 years old

**Fee:** \$6.00 per child

**Place:** Medford Elem. Room 403

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, April 4th

## Gardening and Growing Fun

Growing things can be so fascinating to everyone! Our Gardening and Growing Fun Night will be full of songs, stories and "growing" activities. Everyone will get to plant something to take home.

**Date:** Thursday, May 9th

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 1 -7 years old

**Fee:** \$6.00 per child

**Place:** Medford Elem. Room 403

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, April 25th

# ECFE Classes & Events

## Sensory Bin Make and Take Class:

Wouldn't it be great to have sensory bins already created and ready for your child to use in a moment you need a quick activity, for a rainy day or while you have something to do and you need to keep your child interested in an activity? Well, then this class is for you. With this class you will learn why sensory play is an important component of cognitive and fine motor skills development along with being able to make some sensory bins and take home with you. Children will get the chance to play with some sensory bins with an early childhood teacher while you are in another room making and learning about sensory bins.

When signing up please let us know if your child will be attending this class or if it is the adult coming. This way we can plan to have an appropriate number of staff with the children.

**Date:** Thursday, May 23rd

**Ages:** 1 - 7 years old and Family

**Place:** Medford Elem. Rm 403

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

**Fee:** \$20 (Take home 4 sensory Boxes— will be geared for your child's age)

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, May 2nd

## *Wonderful Wednesday Story Time*

**Join us for great stories, Songs and Fun!!!**

Held in the Medford School Library

5:45 pm - 6:15 pm

*\*\*No need to register; Just show up.*

*\*\*Bring your library bag to check out some Lending Library books.*

**Wednesday:**   \*April 3rd  
                          \*April 24th  
                          \*May 8th  
                          \*May 22nd





### Medford ECFE Registration Form

\*Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
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\*Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Home/Cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Make Checks Payable to: Medford ECFE Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Any medical conditions or special needs the instructor should be aware of (allergic to anything)

*Statement of Release:* I agree to release District # 763, Community Education, and its employees of all liability related to accidents or injuries which my child might incur while participating in the above mentioned activity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent/Guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Permission to use photos of my family on our ECFE website, ECFE Facebook page or other publications? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no

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### Medford ECFE Registration Form

\*Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
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\*Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Home/Cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Class/Event \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Make Checks Payable to: Medford ECFE Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Any medical conditions or special needs the instructor should be aware of (allergic to anything)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent/Guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Permission to use photos of my family on our ECFE website, ECFE Facebook page or other publications? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no