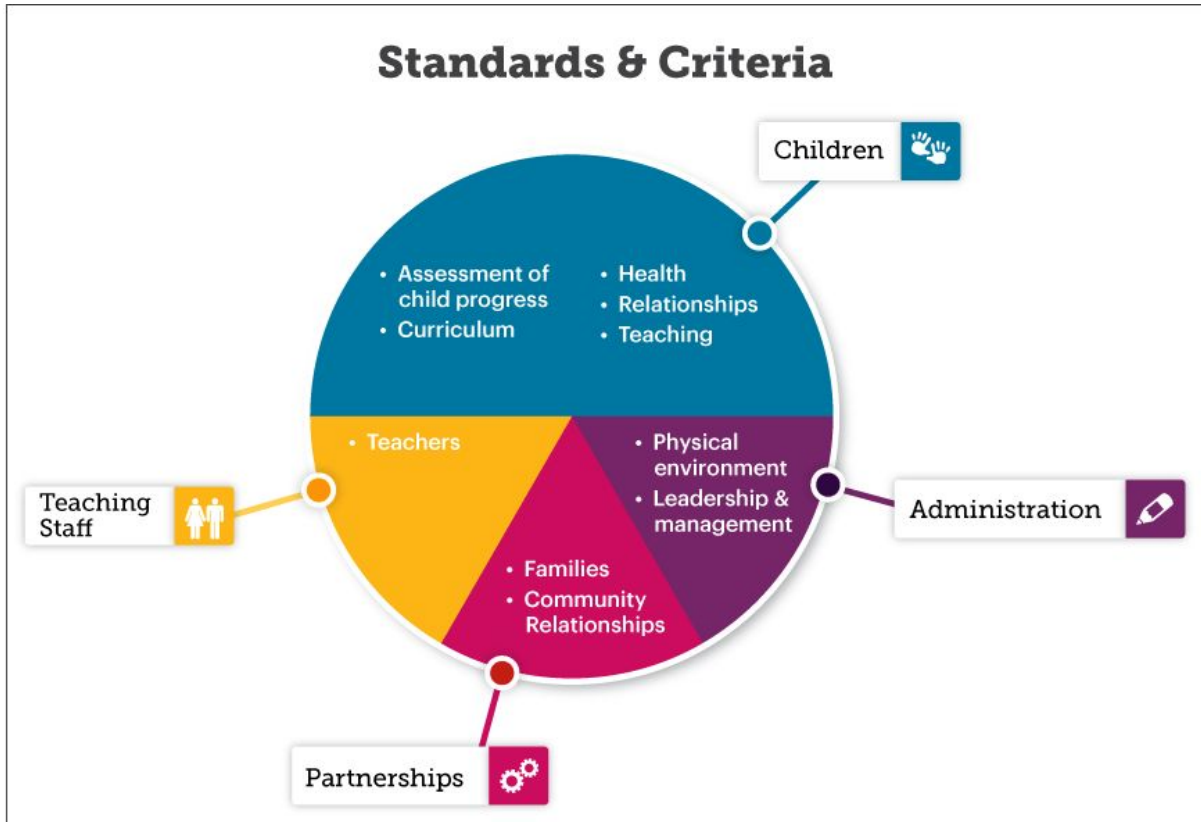


The Early Childhood Development Center will be going through NAEYC Reaccreditation during the 2017-2018 school year.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is the world's largest organization of early childhood professionals. For more than 20 years, NAEYC Accreditation has ensured the quality of education and care provided by programs for young children. NAEYC has defined 10 standards for early childhood programs. These standards, and more than 400 related criteria, are based on research on the development and education of young children and were created with input from thousands of experts and educators from around the country.

NAEYC-Accredited programs must:

- Promote positive relationships for all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth
- Implement a curriculum that fosters all areas of child development: cognitive, emotional, language, physical and social
- Use developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches
- Provide ongoing assessments of each child's learning and development and communicate the child's progress to the family
- Promote the nutrition and health of children and protect children and staff from illness and injury
- Employ and support a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning and development and to support families' diverse interests and needs
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with each child's family
- Establish relationships with and use the resources of the community to support achievement of program goals
- Provide a safe and healthy learning environment
- Implement strong personnel, fiscal and program management policies so that all children, families and staff have high quality experiences



The reaccreditation process has four steps:

1. Self - Study September - October 2017

During the self-study portion ECDC will:

- Create a shared understanding of the key concepts about accreditation, program standards, assessment items, and implications for the program
- Gather information
- Determine strengths and challenges
- Develop improvement plans, as needed
- Make improvements and document progress
- Evaluate results and determine next steps

We started the process during September by conducting the NAEYC staff survey and the NAEYC family survey. We are in the process of compiling the data at this time. We will evaluate the data and use this information to develop an improvement plan. We will also use the information to celebrate areas of strength.

2. Self-Assessment October 2017 - February 2018

Once the self-study portion is complete the official accreditation process begins. We will use the reflective work of the self-study and we will compile sources of evidence to demonstrate how ECDC meets each program standard. The evidence includes portfolio evidence and observable evidence.

- Complete classroom portfolios
- Complete administrator portfolio
- Complete school portfolio

3. Candidacy February 2018

ECDC will submit all candidacy materials, NAEYC will review the materials and determine the readiness for a site visit. ECDC will demonstrate all of the key components of high-quality programming and preparedness for the site visit. At the completion of this step ECDC will be considered candidates for NAEYC Accreditation and will be scheduled for a site visit.

- Complete the candidacy materials
- Organize documentation according to the four sources of evidence:
 - Program portfolio
 - Program observation
 - Class portfolio
 - Class observation
- Continue to gather evidence of performance and make improvements using the self-assessment materials

4. Meeting Standards March - May 2018

ECDC will demonstrate the NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items to an NAEYC assessor through observable and portfolio evidence. The site visit will provide an independent assessment that the program fully meets NAEYC's program standards. During the site visit, an NAEYC assessor will collect data on the program, based on observations and evidence the program compiled during the self assessment. Following the visit, the data is sent to NAEYC for scoring.

- Review the current pre-visit protocol and site visit protocol
- Review the administrator information packet

- Make sure the program portfolio and all classroom portfolios are complete and in one location
- Receive contact from your assigned assessor:
 - Receive a visit scheduling form (choose one exclusion date per month)
 - Receive a 15-day window
 - Receive business-day-prior call informing you of the actual visit day
- Participate in the site visit
- Complete an evaluation (after the site visit)