Butler County

Early Care & Education Council

Helping children grow up healthy, safe, and ready to succeed

at a Glance

The Butler County Early Care & Education Council is…

…a community collaboration to support school readiness. The Council brings together families, businesses, and organizations like: early childhood programs, social services, public and private schools, and higher education to assess what early learning opportunities exist in the community and implements projects to support positive outcomes for local children.

By raising awareness of the importance of early development and building partnerships to support learning, the ECEC seeks to create a community in which all children enter school ready to succeed.

Council Priorities

- Raise public awareness of the benefits of investments in early learning for children, families, and communities
- Increase collaboration among key stakeholders to ensure a holistic approach to improving child outcomes
- Provide families with resources that support their role as their child's first and most important teacher
- Build a high quality, birth to 3rd grade aligned system of education focused on improving school success

Community Benefits

Children who participate in high quality early learning experiences earn an average of 33% higher wages as an adult and are:

- 50% less likely to need special education
- 29% more likely to graduate high school
- 50% less likely to become teen parents
- 70% less likely to be arrested for a violent crime before age 18

To Get Involved

Learn... Learn ways you can help young children grow by visiting state and national websites dedicated to early learning.

- *PA Promise for Children* – www.papromiseforchildren.com
- *Ready Nation* – www.readynation.org

Get Involved... Volunteer at or invest in early learning programs, distribute resources to peers/employees, and join the Butler County Early Care & Education Council.

Tell Your Story... Tell civic leaders how early childhood programs make a difference for families and the entire community.

Meeting Dates

In-Person with Zoom option

September 26, 2023 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Penn State Cooperative Extension Office
101 Motor Pool Way, Bldg. 10
Butler, PA 16001

November 16, 2023 12:30* - 2:00 pm
Butler School District Intermediate High School
551 Fairground Hill Road
Butler, PA 16001

January 25, 2024 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Early Learning Connections
139 Rieger Road
Butler PA 16001

March 21, 2024 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Mars School District Administration Office
545 Route 228. Mars, PA. 16046

May 16, 2024 1:00 – 2:30 pm
BC3, Amy Wise Children's Creative Learning Ctr.
107 College Drive, Butler PA 16002

*The November 16 meeting begins at 12:30

The Butler County Early Care & Education Council is made possible through the support of its members and sponsorships from the community.

Local Education and Resource Network LEARN

For more information:

Visit www.lifesteps.net/ecec
or contact Council Coordinator, Julie Thumma
at Lifesteps 724-283-1010 • jthumma@lifesteps.net