

Director's Notes

Welcome Back to School

On behalf of Pastor David and the entire staff, we would like to welcome parents and children to Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center. It's with much enthusiasm that I write the first newsletter of the 2025-2026 school year. Over the summer I've been busy praying and planning for this successful school year.

The teachers and support staff have spent hours preparing materials, getting acquainted with our new and returning Zion families and creating child centered classrooms.

The administrative staff have registered new students, put together information packets and organized class lists. All of us at Zion ECEC are eager and excited to begin what promises to be a blessed year. This year we will continue to provide hands on academic experiences and guidance for our students that are creative, curious and knowledgeable to help build relationships and real world connections. As the School Director, it's important to me that everyone who steps through our doors know that Jesus loves them and we're happy to have them here.

Please know I have an open door policy and welcome any opportunity to meet with you.

Transitioning Back to School

Even when returning to a familiar setting after summer vacation, children usually feel a bit intimidated. They may have a new teacher, there are new kids in the group, and maybe a special friend is gone. Here's how you can help your child's beginning of school be as smooth possible.

You may want to read your child a few books with a "starting-school" theme. Such stories can help the child get in touch with his/her feelings about going to a new place and separating from you. Reading also gives the child an opportunity to talk about their feelings or ask questions about what to expect. It's a good idea to go over the daily schedule with your child, talk about what they'll be doing over the course of the day. Finally when it's time to leave say good bye, don't worry. We'll take it from there.

Excerpts from: Family-Friendly Communications for Early Childhood Programs Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morison, editors



September 2025

Zion Lutheran ECEC

204 S. Grant Street
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www.zionhinsdale.org

Upcoming Dates:

- ☉ September 1 -No School Labor Day
- ☉ September 2—Full day add on programs begin
- ☉ September 14—Staff Installation service
- ☉ September 29 & 30 Photo Days—see teacher schedule

The full School Calendar can be found on our school website.

<http://www.zionhinsdale.org>

zionlutheranecec@gmail.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/zionECECHinsdale](https://www.facebook.com/zionECECHinsdale)

Instagram: [Instagram.com/zionecechinsdale](https://www.instagram.com/zionecechinsdale)

"This is the day
the Lord has made"
Psalm 118:24



"The mission of Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center is to open the door to a lifetime of learning. In a Christ-centered community."

Enrollment for 2025-2026 school year is open. If you have any friends who are looking into preschools, pass along a good word of mouth for Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center. Thanks!

Talking to Your Child's Teacher

Do you wonder how to build a good relationship with your child's teacher? Here are some words to help you connect.

"Here's how to get in touch with me"

This is important if your schedule changes often or you can't always take calls.

"I want to ask you something. When could we touch base?"

Right before and after school are often hectic times for teachers. Set another time to talk.

"I appreciate it when you _____"

Teachers like to hear when something works well!

"Our family is going through a change. Can I tell you more about it?"

Family situations might make your child extra tired, worried, or happy. Teachers want to respect your privacy and support your child.



Children benefit when their families have good connections with their teachers!

Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this tip sheet are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Illinois State Board of Education.



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**Illinois
State Board of
Education**

Get Them to School Every Day

Preschool is the ideal time to stress the importance of consistent on-time attendance and encourage strong attendance habits



Be enthusiastic!

Talk often to children about why school is important.



Be consistent

Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.



Be prepared

Lay out clothes and pack lunches and backpacks the night before.



Be flexible

Make a plan for getting to school in case something comes up.

Adapted from Attendance Works (www.attendanceworks.org)

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