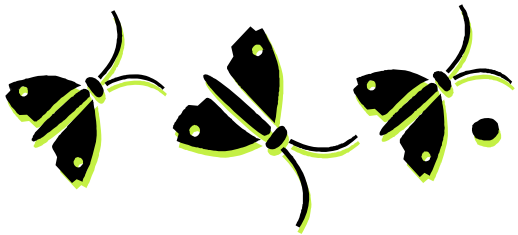
Name: _____ **Child's Name:** _____

Site: _____ **Best time to call/contact:** _____



Umatilla Morrow Head Start/Early Head Start
Parent Involvement Interest Survey

Umatilla Morrow Head Start relies on Parent Involvement for a great deal of the success the Head Start program has had over the years. Head Start is a comprehensive program not solely for the child, but for the entire family. There are several ways in which you as a parent can become more involved in the Head Start Program and in your child's overall development. In addition, Head Start offers several parenting classes geared to help you gain additional skills as you continue your role as your child's primary teacher. Please take a few minutes and respond to the following survey questions. This information will help us to keep you up to date on what is available that specifically meets with your interests. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Classroom Volunteering: Parents are always welcome and encouraged to volunteer to assist in the classroom. You can choose to volunteer in your child's classroom, and you can choose to volunteer in other classrooms in the area. As a volunteer, you might assist with story time, free choice, art/craft activities, food preparation/demonstrations, or to assist with formal meal preparation and clean up in the kitchen.

I am interested in volunteering to assist in the classroom. Yes No

When planning field trips away from the center, whether walking or by bus, additional hands and eyes are always needed to ensure the safety of every child.

I am interested in volunteering to assist on field trips Yes No

The bus driver can always use another adult on the bus to help monitor behavior and ensure safety.

I am interested in volunteering to assist on the bus route Yes No

Parent Center Committee: Every center has parent center meetings a minimum of every other month or as often as once a month. The parents from each center elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer usually at the first meeting of the year in September. These meetings are directed by the parents and are opportunities for parents to hear guest speakers on topics of interest and to plan activities for the children and parents from your center. Each center starts with a budget of $175 and parents can fund raise to increase the budget to meet whatever expenses they may incur in planning and holding their events/activities during the year. The chairperson is responsible for chairing the meetings. They work with the executive committee (all the officers and staff) to develop agenda's prepare minutes, etc. for each of these meetings.

I am interested in serving as a Parent Center Committee Officer Yes No

Career Ladders: We offer a program called Career Ladders to parents and people in the community who may want to volunteer in a more directed fashion, in order to gain and develop skills that will enhance their chances for employment. Parents can volunteer as a Teacher Assistant, Cook, Bus Monitor, WIC clerk, Office clerk, or Maintenance person. When the program is completed, participants receive a certificate of completion identifying their hours of experience. With this type of experience, parents may meet requirements for entry level positions within the program.
I am interested in doing Career Ladders. Yes No

My area of interest is: Teacher Assistant Cook Bus Monitor WIC clerk
Office clerk Maintenance

Policy Council: Within Head Start there are two governing bodies. One is the Board of Directors, which is made up of leaders from the communities within our service area. The other is the Policy Council. The Policy Council is a council of parents representing each center within our service area. These two governing bodies must approve all changes and additions to staff, policies, and program options. Parents are elected from the group of parents at their respective centers to be the Policy Council Representative. Policy Council representatives must attend the Policy Council meetings each month. The meetings are scheduled in advance and are usually from 11:30 AM to 2 PM in Hermiston. Lunch and child care are provided for the representatives. In addition, each center should elect an alternate representative to Policy Council. The alternate may attend all meetings, but does not have the right to vote unless the representative is absent. The Policy Council is where parents can bring the concerns of the parents at their local centers to a decision making body for discussion and review. As Policy Council makes decisions regarding issues and concerns, the representative is responsible to report information from these meetings back to their center parent group at their regular center meetings.

Policy Council Representatives have opportunities to serve on statewide and regional boards. In addition they also have opportunities to attend state regional and national Head Start Conferences with workshops focused on parents. When Policy Council representatives are selected to represent our program at these meetings and conference, Head Start pays the expenses. These are great opportunities for parents to gain additional skills and meet new people.

I am interested in serving as Policy Council Representative/Alternate. Yes No

Parent Education/Parenting Classes: Our program offers a variety of classes geared to help parents develop their parenting skills. In addition, we collaborate with other agencies and organizations that offer parenting classes and notify our parents of offerings available within the community. All parenting classes offered through Head Start are also open to the members of our community.

I am interested in attending parenting classes. Yes No

If yes, please mark all topics that are of interest to you.

Behavior Management **Discipline** **Temperament**
Child Development (ages & stages) **The Power of Play** **Fathering for Life**

OR Indicate the classes, by name, that you would like to attend

1, 2, 3, 4, Parents **Temperament Talk** **The Incredible Years**
Learning and Growing Together **Other**

Leadership Training/Community Involvement: Umatilla Head Start is a **Free to Grow** grantee. We focus on working with family strengthening and community strengthening with a goal of preventing substance abuse so that children within our communities are "Free to Grow" in a healthy and safe community. We offer training to parents who are interested in becoming more skilled and knowledgeable in how to be effective in creating change within their neighborhoods, communities, city governments, schools, etc.

I am interested in taking the Leadership training. Yes No

Group Activities and/or Support Groups: Umatilla Head Start with Free to Grow, will be offering the following groups below. The Social Support groups are an opportunity for families to develop new skills, and develop relationships with others that may share the same healthy interests. Each community will provide at least two different social support groups per program year. Dates and times of the groups will be announced throughout the year to families and communities.

I am interested taking the Social Support Group. Yes No

If yes, please indicate which topics/areas are of interest to you.

Sewing **Home Repair** **Scrapbook Making** **Car Mechanics** **Cooking/ Grilling** **Photography** **Gardening** **Fishing**
Other (please specify)

Please indicate days and times that will work best for you for parenting and leadership classes:_____