



College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center
917 S. McDonough Street
Decatur, Georgia 30030

September 23, 2009

Dear Parents,

College Heights ECLC has a wonderful opportunity to expand the 0 to 3 year old program through our partnership with Partnership for Community Action, Inc. (PCA). A grant was written and received by PCA to add additional slots in our current Head Start preschool program and to open an Early Head Start (birth up to 3) program at our school. In order to accommodate additional students, College Heights will need to install a learning cottage (1 portable with 2 classrooms) on school grounds that meets Bright From the Start and NAEYC standards.

In 2004 City Schools of Decatur set a goal to open an Early Learning Center that provided a high quality early childhood educational program to families that reside in City of Decatur. College Heights ECLC opened in the fall of 2005 with the mission to provide learning opportunities to all students in order to close the achievement gap between our black and white students. Today, that achievement gap still exists. Although we have a strong early childhood learning program, we have not been successful in meeting our goal to provide these same learning opportunities in our infant and toddler program to low income families.

Our challenge is to decide how we can use the learning cottage (2 additional classrooms) to implement and expand the Head Start and Early Head Start program while keeping our goal to blend the Decatur-DeKalb YMCA with the PCA program. Please consider the opportunity to attend an open meeting on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the school cafeteria. Parents will have an opportunity to share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns with school administration and other families.

We look forward to working with everyone in an effort to attain our goal to be able to serve the array of Decatur families with a high quality early learning program.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kennedy
Principal of College Heights

Malcolm Ratchford
PCA Head Start/EHS Director

William Misenheimer
Senior YMCA Program Director