

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community leaders get a dose of early educator life

RPC hosts Early Educator Day to showcase teaching in early education

ASHEBORO, N.C. (April 29, 2022) — Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC) partnered with nine child care centers for Early Educator Day yesterday to build awareness around early education.

Nine community leaders spent an hour in their assigned centers shadowing teachers in infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms. The experience provided a window into what it takes, educationally and physically, to be an early educator.

“This event gave community and business leaders the opportunity to truly see what our early childhood educators experience as they teach young children every day,” RPC Professional Development Specialist Scarlet Welborn said. “My hope is that the experience allowed them to see the importance of high-quality care for our children, and the need for appropriate compensation for our teachers.”

Participants attended a luncheon at Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce following their visits. During the lunch, they

had an opportunity to discuss their experiences. They also received a faux paycheck showing what they would have earned for their hour of work as an early educator in Randolph County.

The annual event provides early educators in Randolph County the opportunity to demonstrate high quality, while highlighting the low wages historically tied to the industry.



County Commissioner Darrell Frye “teaches” at a child care center

PRESS RELEASE



Scarlet Welborn, left, presents County Commissioner Darrell Frye with his faux paycheck for his work as an early educator

handed the task of teaching and training them are doing an outstanding job.”

“Being able to step into the classroom has given me a newfound appreciation for those training and teaching our children. Each of these teachers are impactful and important to each individual student in many different ways,” Loflin Funeral Service Director Nolan Coley said. “I was able to see firsthand that it goes far beyond playtime. The consistency, compassion, and learning opportunities they provide are priceless. The future of our community is found within the walls of our early childhood development centers, and those who have been

“Today’s experience for me was eye opening, seeing the minimal amount of money these early educators are paid,” Pinnacle Financial Partners SVP/Office Leader Justin Macon said.

“Experiencing everything these children have learned already, at such a young age is amazing. You could tell how much these teachers cared about the children. I admire anyone that teaches in early education. I had such a great time interacting with the students as well as the teachers.”

Other participants included Darrell Frye, Sara Stephenson, Randy Tedder, Lisa Hayworth, Wayne Rowe, Cindy Haines, and David Allen

Participating centers included Shepherd’s Way Day School, It’s A Kids World-School Age, First Steps Early Learning Center, Building Blocks Christian Academy, Randleman Enrichment Center, Teddy Bear Child Care, The Growing Place, Precious Memories, and First Church of God Dayschool.

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About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has positively impacted the lives of Randolph County’s young children. As the community’s lead organization for young children and their families, RPC works with and through diverse agencies, individuals, organizations, and communities to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and life. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.

CONTACT:



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Micki Bare, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement
Randolph Partnership for Children, 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203
336-629-2128 Ext. 12; mbare@randolphkids.org