



September 2021

All School Newsletter

Welcome, everyone! We are so happy to be working with your family this year. If your address, phone number or emergency contacts change during the school year, please keep us updated. If you use your cell phone as an emergency number, please keep it turned on while your child is in school.

IMPORTANT CHECK INFO: If you pay your tuition by check, please be aware that our bank has enacted a policy for returned checks. Here is their official wording: “If your check is returned for non-sufficient funds, you expressly authorize your account to be electronically debited or bank drafted for the amount of the check plus any applicable fees. The use of a check for payment is your acknowledgment and acceptance of this policy and its terms and conditions.”

A WORD ABOUT FEET: Our students are very active during their days at MEEC. They climb and run on the playground, use balance beams and move around a lot in the gym. To be safe and able to participate in all activities, we are requesting that children wear tennis shoes. Please save the sandals and Crocs for times when your child is not at MEEC. Please dress them in washable play clothes, because sometimes we get messy!

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE? www.meec.us. There you will find classroom newsletters, forms, the school calendar and lots of other good stuff. It's also an easy way to find out if MEEC is closed due to bad weather or other emergency – we post it on the home page.

PICK UP AND DISMISSAL: Parents will be permitted to come into the school to drop off and pick up their children! **We ask that all adults, regardless of vaccination, wear a mask inside the building.** Ms. Cindy will greet you at the door five minutes to the start of your child's school day. If you are running late please ring our bell and we will let you in at that time. For security reasons please do not let anyone else into the building with you. Please stand in the hallway with your child until the teacher greets them and invites them into the classroom. Once your child is in the classroom please depart promptly. Upon dismissal you may gain entrance into the building 10 minutes prior to your child's dismissal time. This will give the teachers a chance to talk to you and then once again please leave promptly so we eliminate any crowding in the hallway. We are very excited that we will be able to communicate directly, but need to respect the church's health policy.

PICTURE DAY: We are excited to have Lifetouch Photography coming to take our school pictures this year. Picture Day will be on **Wednesday, September 29th and Thursday, September 30th**. Your child's picture will be taken during class time on the day that they attend school. Life Touch has comprehensive COVID safety guidelines that they will be following. We will have a composite class photo to cherish these early school years. You will receive a proof with the option to order photos. The pictures are great and our school gets a small profit from the photo sales! A flyer will be emailed later with more information.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! Watch for pictures, art work and fun activities from your child's day!

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL: Stay informed about the fun in your child's classroom by reading our class newsletter. Newsletters are on our school website and emailed monthly. If you are not receiving these emails please let our office manager, Ms. Cindy, know at once please.

HOW CAN YOU HELP RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL?

FALL FUNDRAISER: You will be receiving an email and flyer for our second annual Sausage and Pasta Drive Thru fundraiser on **Saturday, October 2nd from 2:00-7:00pm at 7510 Snow Road, Parma**. This is a great opportunity to be free of cooking dinner and support your school. We really need everyone's help in spreading the word about this tasty event. Please take time to tell your friends and family. Share the info to everyone in your phone contacts or spread the word through social media. Fundraisers like this will help to keep our tuition rates reasonable!

AMAZON SMILES: Help our school collect 0.5% of your purchases!



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THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS allows its members to designate a recipient for Choice Dollars. Choose MEEC, and we will receive a quarterly donation from Thrivent.

UNITED WAY: MEEC is a United Way Agency. You can designate your donation for United Way to be used for MEEC by using our code (50239).

EXTRA EASY FUNDRAISING: (More simple ways to help raise funds for MEEC!) Heinen's Teaming Up for Education - Use your Preferred Customer card every time you shop at Heinen's and help build a donation for MEEC. Just sign up for Heinen's Tasteful Rewards program and then designate MEEC as the school you want to receive the percentage from your purchases. You must sign up again every school year. It is all done through www.heinens.com. Call the MEEC office if you need help registering (440-888-9922).

UPCOMING EVENTS:	First Day of School	September 7th
	Picture Day	September 29th & 30th
	Sausage Drive Thru	October 2nd



"Miss Laura" Brown holds a Masters Degree in Special Education from Baldwin Wallace College. She was an Intervention Specialist for the Medina City Schools for 19 years. She has been a strong advocate for MEEC since her 3 children attended and thrived. In her spare time she gardens and swims. We are happy to have her as our Autism Scholarship Coordinator.

"Ms. Danae" Corbett is the mother of five children and three MEEC graduates. Danae has completed coursework from Lorain Community College and has worked closely with schools maneuvering the IEP process. Danae's calmness and problem solving mind is well suited as an assistant in our big room.

"Miss Tonya" Farran-Zaripheh, Teacher, has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education from Notre Dame College. She has 14 years of experience as a MEEC preschool teacher as well as coursework and experience in special education. Her gentle understanding quickly earns the trust of our students in the big and little room. She is the proud parent of her five children that are all MEEC alumni!

"Miss Lynn" Figaro, Director & Teacher, has earned a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education from Cleveland State University. She has additional training in severe behaviors, specific learning disabilities and early intervention. Lynn has been an integral part of our staff for 26 years!

"Miss Kim" Garvey, Assistant Teacher, joins us following a stint as a stay-at-home mom. She has been involved in the special needs community for several years, volunteering with Connecting for Kids. She has done countless hours of research and experience with my own children. Kim's kind and calm personality make her a great match for MEEC.

"Miss Deena" Hernandez, Teacher/Assistant, has earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Kent State University. She has previous experience working in preschool classrooms, with children of all abilities. She also has experience working closely with families to provide support and community resources. Miss Deena's daughter is a current student at MEEC. This is her first year as a teacher at MEEC, and second year as an Assistant. She is excited to meet our families and help the children learn and grow.

"Ms. Dawn" Karter is a graduate of Heidelberg University with a bachelor's degree in Child/Adolescent Psychology. Dawn has been part of the MEEC family as a parent for three years. She has experience in the preschool setting and as a mother of two children. Her high energy and enthusiasm will be a great welcome as an assistant in the Great Beginnings class. She is excited for this school year and to teach your little ones!

"Miss DeAnna" Lindsey, Teacher, has earned a Master's Degree in Social Work and has previous experience with ABA programming. Two of her three daughters are MEEC graduates. Miss DeAnna and her family relocated to the Cleveland area from Pittsburgh, and we all think they moved in the right direction! We are pleased to have DeAnna starting her 6th year!

"Miss Devin" Morgan graduated with her bachelor's degree from Miami University. She has worked at MEEC's summer camp for two years, working with children one on one as well as in a group. When she is not at MEEC, she works as a behavioral analysis tutor (ABA). Miss Devin is a MEEC alumni herself, which allows her to bring the same enjoyment to the classroom that she received herself.

"Miss Jennifer" Morgan, M.A. CCC/SLP, Speech Language Pathologist, has been at MEEC for over 20 years. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Ithaca College and her Master's Degrees at Kent State University in Speech Language Pathology. She has recently completed over 50 hours of continuing education on a variety of subjects including: Feeding and Swallowing, Stuttering, Augmentative and Alternative Communication, Neuroscience and Self Regulation, and Play Based Treatment Programs. Miss Jennifer loves movement based therapy! "If the kids are having fun, it makes learning easy!"

"Miss Jill" Natran, Teacher/Assistant, has a Bachelor's of Science in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Bowling Green State University and has been at MEEC for four years. She has 20+ years of prior classroom and tutoring experience with children of ALL abilities, and is passionate about early intervention. In addition to helping her students learn and grow and meet their fullest potential, she also seeks to provide support to our MEEC families within the community.

"Miss Sharon" Prexta, M.A. CCC/SLP, Speech Language Pathologist, has been at MEEC since 2000. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Baldwin Wallace College and her Master's Degree in Speech Language Pathology from Cleveland State University. She specializes in Sensory Integration, Apraxia, Augmentative Communication and Autism. "At MEEC we treat the whole child using evidence based therapy techniques. We build movement and motor planning activities into every speech session."

"Miss Chelsea" Repasy, Teacher, has earned her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Psychology from Slippery Rock University. She has prior training in ABA therapy from the Cleveland Clinic along with in-home care. She also has a background in dance and loves to add it to the classroom as it brings out joy and creativity in the students. Outside of school, she enjoys spending time with her husband and baby boy. This will be her first year teaching at MEEC and she is excited for a great year!

"Miss Cindy" Todorov, Office Administrator, has a background in software support and enjoys keeping things organized and running smoothly in the office. Cindy's big smile and welcoming personality make everyone feel at home at our school.

We are ready to have a great year!



