



City of St. Charles

ILLINOIS

Proclamation

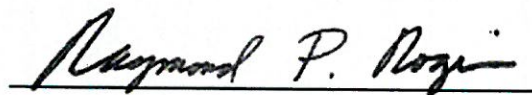
Bethlehem Preschool 50th Anniversary

- WHEREAS,** Bethlehem Preschool was established in 1968; and
- WHEREAS,** In a meeting held on February 15, 1968 Bethlehem Preschool mission statement was created: "The purpose of a day care center is to provide a 'quality nursery day care center school for social and educational experience under professional direction for 3,4,5 year old children. This school shall be non-sectarian.'"; and
- WHEREAS,** On May 16th, 1968, Bethlehem Preschool Center was licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services for a maximum of 40 children; and
- WHEREAS,** We have, since then, been re-licensed to serve up to 93 children each day. In addition to the day care center, we also offer half day programs. Counting the different morning and afternoon programs we have, average enrollment has been between 100-140 students each year; and
- WHEREAS,** We currently have 15 staff at Bethlehem Preschool. Our teachers have an average of 16 years of experiences in Early Childhood Education. Our longest employed staff is our Kitchen Manager, Mary Fitzmaurice. She is going on her 38th year, and the Preschool Director, Pong Sayasane is going into her 22nd year. Several of the teachers have also been employed at Bethlehem for over 10 years (two are in their 16th year); and
- WHEREAS,** Bethlehem Preschool Center offers Scholarship/Financial Aid for families who couldn't afford tuition or just needed reduced tuition. For the past 50 years, we've helped and supported at least 10-15 families each year. That's 500-750 families!
- WHEREAS,** Bethlehem Preschool was accredited by NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) many years ago, and currently holds the Bronze Circle of Quality from ExceleRate Illinois, the state's quality recognition system for early learning and development providers; and
- WHEREAS,** We still hold strongly the original mission/purpose, and feel that providing quality in early learning and development will help our children in St Charles and the surrounding communities be better prepared for success in school and life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, along with the St. Charles City Council, do hereby proclaim that February 15th, 2018, shall hereby be known as the Bethlehem Preschool 50th Anniversary Celebration in the City of St. Charles.

SEAL:





Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor