

## Warm Your Palate 2018 Fundraiser a Huge Success!

Warm Your Palate 2018 was an amazing evening of food, wine, friends and fundraising! More than 200 guests raised over 100k in support of the children and families of Infant Welfare Society of Evanston. Paula Laboy, BTN parent, spoke beautifully about the program and her story. The George R. Kendall Foundation was honored for their years of support and the construction of the "Tom Kendall Gross Motor and Play Space" that we hope to have completed by early 2019.

The Northwestern Segal Visitor Center was a perfect venue and backdrop for the event by the lake. Jazz music and wonderful wine and food set the stage for this beautiful evening. Amazing auction items and raffle prizes helped push the crowd to reach our goal. A huge thank you to everyone who made this evening so amazing!



Warm Your Palate guests cheer on the auction. IWSE staff enjoying the evening. A sample of great Chef inspirations.

## Geoff Nagle, CEO of Erikson Institute discusses "The First 1100 days" at the Skokie District 69/IWSE Symposium.

It was an amazing evening with over 115 guests in attendance at the School District 69 headquarters in Skokie. Geoff Nagle, CEO of Erikson Institute presented a 40 minute lecture and discussion on the importance of the first 110 days in a child's life. Everyone was enthralled by the data and evidence demonstrating how critical children's first learning experiences are and how they can impact their entire life.

We look forward to developing our partnership with School District 69 and advancing the work of Early Childhood Education and promoting a continuum of care from 6 weeks to 5 years old.



Our Panel Discussion at the IWSE and District 69 Symposium was a huge success.

### In this month's issue:

- Warm Your Palate 2018
- IWSE/School District 69 Symposium
- Family Event at TBN
- Director's Corner
- The Achievement gap
- New Staff at IWSE
- Staff Spotlight
- Contact Us

# A Wonderful Gathering at Teen Baby Nursery and our Family Support Program to Celebrate our Families and Children!

In February 2018 we gathered the families from our Teen Baby Nursery and Family Support Program and celebrated our work together with food, games and activities and a visit from the Evanston Public Library's, Laura Antolin. Everyone had a great evening learning about new program updates and plans for the future. We thank all of our parents, children and staff for making this such a great event.

It's not every day we get to celebrate our parents and families and all of the hard work they do in support of their children. Having a meal, providing some fun activities and coming together to talk and share new resources is an important part of "walking alongside" our families and supporting them through difficult and challenging times in their lives.



Tiffany Culpepper speaks to parents and families. Patricia Estrada holds one of our children from Teen Baby Nursery

## Directors Corner:

### Baby Toddler Nursery:

*Health & Safety:*

**SUMMER** is finally here and we are excited. Just a few tips to keep us safe at school. During outdoor play children should always be hydrated and protected from the sun using sunscreen. Closed toed shoes for young children are a great way to protect little toes from bumps and bruises. Always look both ways when crossing the street and **ALWAYS** monitor children by sight and sound.

**LET'S HAVE FUN AND HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!!**

### Teen Baby Nursery/Family Support:

Hello Everyone,

Some exciting things have happened over this last quarter at TBN. From Winter Wonderland to the Week of the Young Child it was amazing! We are so thrilled that we are now approaching the season where the weather will allow us to have some fun and educational outdoor exploration. Science exploration is a wonderful experience for our children and they look forward to this as we have just completed our Live Butterfly Farm with our toddlers, watching each of the butterfly stages!



**Pamela Staples**



**Tiffany Culpepper**



# The Week of the Young Child Creates Great Opportunities for Engagement and Fun!

On April 16th, 2018 we kicked off “The Week of The Young Child” at both sites of the IWSE. This National celebration of children 0-5 involves activities, music, art, dance, food, early literacy and other activities that engage and inspire our youngest learners and connects their families to our classrooms.

One of the activities that we did as a larger early childhood community in Evanston was “ stop, drop and read” where we took 15 minutes at 10:30 am and stopped everything we were doing and read with our children. This was happening in dozens of child care facilities with hundreds of children at the same time. It was a great week for all of us to enjoy and celebrate.



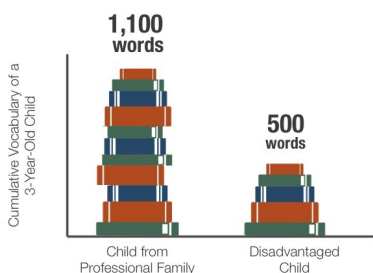
Zumba with our TB3 Pre K classroom was a blast, music activities at Teen Baby Nursery and creative arts and crafts in our Eagle 2 Toddler room

## Upcoming Events at Infant Welfare Society of Evanston:

1. May 7-11, 2018 Staff Appreciation Week, Teacher Appreciation Day May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. -TBN
2. May 19: YEA Evanston Arts Festival
3. NAEYC Accreditation Window 7/9-7/27 2018

## Focus on Kindergarten Readiness and the First 1100 Days of Life is Critical to Early success.

### THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP STARTS AT BIRTH



James Heckman of the University of Chicago, a world renowned economist, has put together years of powerful research that talk to the financial benefits of Early Childhood Education. The achievement gap that starts at birth is a focus of IWSE and we want to ensure that all of our children get the tools and resources they need for Kindergarten readiness and success.

Parents work with IWSE to understand their children’s developmental needs, their strengths and how they can better assist the Kindergarten readiness process. Parents are a child’s first teacher. IWSE walks alongside our parents and helps them become advocates for their child’s learning and development.

LEARN MORE AT [HECKMANEQUATION.ORG](http://HECKMANEQUATION.ORG)

# **Lets welcome our new staff at Baby Toddler, Teen Baby and the Family Support Program!**

## ***Baby Toddler Nursery:***

Robert has a long career in child and family services. He has experience in DCFS as an investigator, DHS, Chicago Commons and Maryville Academy. He has worked with children and families for over ten years and brings a wide range of skills and knowledge to the Family Advocate role. Let's welcome Robert to his new role with IWSE.



**Robert Hull**

**Family Advocate**

## ***Teen Baby Nursery:***

Congratulations to Tamekia for her new job assignment as TBN's Family Advocate. She will continue to be our enrollment coordinator. Tamekia has a background in early childhood and family support. She has worked with children and families in a variety of settings. We look forward to her new role in helping and supporting our families in the best way possible.



**Tamekia Donaldson**

**Family Advocate/ERSEA**

## ***Family Support:***

Welcome Fay to our Family Support Program as our new Home Visitor! Fay has an extensive background in the field of Early Childhood with over 20 years of experience. We look forward to her working with the families and children in providing an educational home-based experience.



**Fay Sampson**

**Family Support Specialist**

## **Contact Us**

For more information about becoming involved with your child's school, or learning more about IWSE programs, please contact:

### **IWSE**

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Evanston, Illinois 60202

(847) 491-9650

Visit us on the web at  
[www.iwse.org](http://www.iwse.org)

Donate on line and support our programming today!

## **IWSE Staff Spotlight:**



**Catherine Eason** came on board late last year as our **Educational Specialist** and spends her time focused on supporting the classroom and our classroom teachers.

Her background is in early childhood education and she brings 20 years of experience to IWSE. We are grateful to have Catherine supporting our staff through lesson planning support, teacher training and classroom mentoring and instruction.

Let's all welcome Catherine to the IWSE family!