

# Parents as First Teachers

## Bentonville Public Schools, Childcare Enrichment Services

**Parents as Teachers:** Parents as Teachers is an internationally recognized, research-based home visiting program that increases parent knowledge of child development, improves parenting practices, provides early intervention, improves children's school readiness, and supports future success. Parent educators will work with low-income families in Benton County so that parents can be their child's first and best teacher.

## EOA Head Start

**EOA Children's Services Expansion:** EOA Children's Services will expand the current program to include a new classroom to serve low-income children, under the age of 3, that are in need of special services. This expansion will incorporate specialized classroom equipment and curriculum and additional staff who will all work collaboratively with the children and families to develop Parents as First Teachers while also reducing the effects of chronic poverty.

## Family Network

**Nurturing New Lives:** Family Network provides early childhood education and culturally-appropriate, regular in-home visits to children and families. Through personalized coaching, Moms and Dads create more responsive and stimulating home environments, and engage as active partners in their child's education, which supports healthy brain development and increases school readiness.

## Dolly Parton Imagination Library

**The Dolly Parton Imagination Library:** This program provides a free library of books to encourage a love of reading and learning. From birth through age 5, children will receive a book every month. Over 13,000 books are mailed to NWA children every year, supporting early literacy, language acquisition and parent engagement.



## **Helen R. Walton Children's Enrichment Center**

**Early Childhood Education for Children Living in Poverty:** The Early Childhood Education for Children Living in Poverty program will remove barriers to ensure that children living in situational poverty have access to free high quality early childhood education. The program will provide access to therapy, case management, support services while mobilizing parents with ongoing communication and resources to support learning at home and move the family out of poverty.

## **Sunshine School and Development Center**

**Sunshine Parents as Teachers:** Sunshine Parents as Teachers (PAT) believes "all children will learn, grow, and develop their full potential." The program focuses on increasing knowledge of early childhood development, improving parenting practices and supporting school readiness and success. This program will provide parent educators to help Springdale parents strengthen their skills and ensure young children are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

## **Ozark Literacy Council**

**NWA Tenacious Reading Program:** The project will engage low-income students and parents in building stronger literacy skills together. School-based "Eat and Read" programs will be complemented by Home Libraries. Volunteer tutors will work with students and parents during in-school and after school tutorials. Eat and Read Nights will launch at two elementary schools with high poverty rates in Fayetteville, with the possibility of expansion to other schools.

