

# Captain G. Harold Hunt Early Learning Center

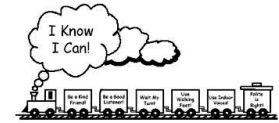


SPARCri 2011

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**Principal: Cindy L. Kendall**

Captain Hunt



## Principal's Message

Our mission at the Captain G. Harold Hunt Early Learning Center for Pre-school and Kindergarten is to provide a safe and nurturing environment that respects cultural diversity and addresses academic, social, emotional and physical needs of all children. Our Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) plays an integral role in promoting the academic success, positive social and emotional development, and the safety of all students. This year, our efforts focused on a learning readiness program that teaches the skills necessary for learning. These skills include: listening, paying attention, asking questions and never giving up. This *Ready to Learn Program (RtL)*, delivered by the school counselor, is aligned with the American School Counselor Association's (ASCA) National Model which provides standards for the profession. A second focus for this year has been the continued implementation of the Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum, expanding it to all 13 Kindergarten classes. The school counselor created and implemented similar lessons in all Pre-K classrooms. These provide a positive and safe learning environment in which all students develop attitudes, knowledge and skills to become problem solvers and resolve conflicts.

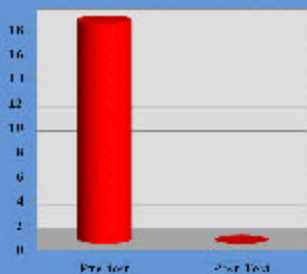
## Student Support Personnel Team

A common goal of all SSPT members is equity and access for every student. This is a team of highly trained and appropriately credentialed professionals who are active members of professional associations that include the Rhode Island School Counselor Association (RISCA), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), Rhode Island Association of Elementary School Principals (RIAESP), National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), Rhode Island School Psychologist Association (RISPA), National School Psychologist Association (NSPA), among others.

Job Title	Academic Degrees	Job Title	Academic Degrees
1 Principal	Master's Degree	1 School Psychologist	Doctorate
1 School Counselor	Master's Degree	1 Home School Liaison	Years of Experience
1 School Social Worker	Master's Degree	2 School Secretaries	High School Diploma
2 School Nurse-Teachers	Master's Degrees	1 Reading Specialist	Master's Degree

## School Climate and Safety

Students who would respond to a bully by "acting mean back"

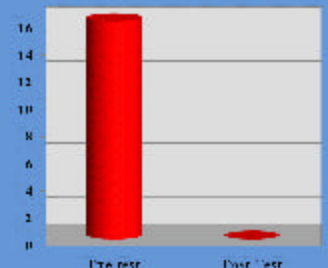


A goal at Captain Hunt is to cultivate a school-wide violence prevention culture. The evidence-based Second Step Violence Prevention curriculum is being implemented in all 13 kindergarten classrooms by the school counselor and University of Rhode Island's School Psychologist Program students. Weekly lessons help students learn to manage their emotions and solve problems with other students.

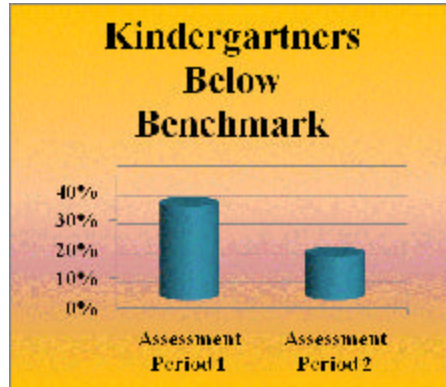
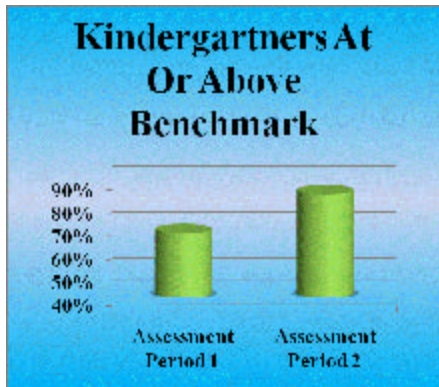
Additionally, a four lesson bully awareness program was delivered to selected kindergarten classrooms by the school counselor. The results of the pre- and post-tests administered showed (see charts) that the students gained a better understanding of bullying behaviors and how to handle bullies more effectively.

The SSPT contribute to the climate and safety of the school through these and other activities.

Students who would respond to a bully by "hitting the other person"



## Student Results



Central Falls conducts Child Outreach Screening to all 3-5 year old children in the city to determine potential barriers to learning and refers students identified as at-risk to the Captain G. Harold Hunt Early Learning Center for Pre-school and Kindergarten. The SSPT works with these children to provide effective interventions aligned with the American School Counselor Association's (ASCA) National Model.

The number of students at or above the benchmark on the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) 2 increased between Assessment Periods 1 and 2 from 68% to 85%. The percent of students below the benchmark was reduced by a similar proportion. (Charts at left and center) All teachers, including the reading and resource specialists, use data to implement effective teaching strategies and create curriculum designed to increase reading readiness. Continued professional development from the Learning Community for teachers and the Ready to Learn (RtL) program taught to students by the school counselor contributed to improving reading readiness. RtL is an early childhood classroom program, based upon an extensive review of research on skills associated with school success. It was introduced in all Kindergarten classrooms this year. Teachers were asked to rate student engagement just prior to the addition of an elementary school counselor and have repeated the process three times. With the implementation of a focused program to teach social and learning readiness skills, an improvement in engagement has been noted. (Chart at right)

These results address the following ASCA standards: Academic A: Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the life span; and Personal/Social A: Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.

### Community Partnership/Resources

Captain Hunt Early Learning Center is partnered with many community agencies and businesses that support the efforts of the SSPT to personalize the learning environment and support every child's needs. The Rhode Island Department of Education provides the creative curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten. Additionally, Children's Friends in Central Falls and Rhode Island Family Services offer children and families the services that they may not be able to attain on their own. With the diverse population of students at this school, these resources and partnerships are vital to the success of all programs.

Academic	Career	Personal/Social
Rhode Island Department of Education Rhode Island College Central Falls Public Library Dacia Pray Memorial Foundation	URI Partnership Truancy Court District Resource Officer Girl Scouts of RI	URI Partnership Second Step Program Family Care and Community Partnerships (FCCP) Progreso Latino

Volunteers are vital contributors to the successful implementation of programs offered at Captain Hunt Early Learning Center. Volunteer activities that support SSPT efforts include the student interns in Educational Psychology from the University of Rhode Island who provide additional activities to students, and The Learning Community Charter School who provide professional development and modeling activities to Captain Hunt staff.

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