

Connections



OCTOBER

DECEMBER 2021

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Army Higher Headquarters Inspection

West Point Child and Youth Services (CYS) completed its Annual Army Higher Headquarters Inspection (AHHI). The 2021 inspection was conducted virtually and contained criteria concerning Health, Safety, Sanitation, Patron Communications and Relations, Emergency Preparedness, Program Administration and Staff and Volunteer Background Checks, Orientation, Certifications and Training. CYS staff submitted all required documentation and photographic evidence of over 170 criteria, provided completed Patron Surveys as well as participated in one-on-one inspector interviews to thoroughly represent its daily compliance with the Army's high-level standards to ensure the health, safety and well-being of children and youth.

We are proud to share that our inspection concluded with CYS meeting all but three criteria. These three criteria are all direct reflections of the loss of childcare spaces in the Child Development Center's closed classrooms due to the current direct-care staffing shortage. CYS Leaders continue to promote its employment opportunities to West Point and its surrounding communities via physical and digital postings and collegiate partnerships; as well as a broader audience via world-wide employment websites, social media and virtual job fairs.

Child and Youth Services will strive daily to sustain these standards and to continue to provide high levels of programming and care. We would like to extend great appreciation on behalf of CYS in its entirety for your Patronage and constant support in maintaining excellence. We ask you as our Patrons to continue to provide the daily communication that has supported CYS in achieving its mission; this communication is imperative to our operations at every level. Your child's direct-care staff, their program's Director and our Child and Youth Services Chief are always available to receive your valued feedback, concerns and cheers.

Youth Sports and Fitness Achievement



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Child Development Center Achievement



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Stony Child Development Center

Happy Fall to all of our Stony CDC families! We are excited for the fall season and new adventures with the children. Here at the Stony CDC, we use developmentally appropriate practices to help your children grow and learn through play. The environments in the classrooms are set up to help engage the children in math, literacy, science, engineering, technology, and art. The children will also have the opportunity to play outside, weather permitting, so be sure to bring in the appropriate clothing for your children with the cooler weather coming. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and having fun while learning!

Curriculum Snapshots



25. Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics of living things.



7.b. Demonstrates fine-motor strength and coordination. Uses writing and drawing tools.



33. Explores the Visual Arts during outdoor play

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER NAEYC SUCCESS!

In the Summer of 2021, the Stony Child Development Center earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children.



The Stony Child Development Center went through an extensive self-study and quality-assurance process, followed by an on-site visit by NAEYC Assessors to verify and ensure that the program met each standard and criteria for: child relationships, curriculum, teaching approaches, child assessment, nutrition and health, staff qualification and training, family and community relationships, physical environments and program leadership and management. NAEYC-accredited programs are always prepared for unannounced visits during their accreditation term, which lasts for five years.

The professional staff at the Stony Child Development Center have exhibited their ability to meet the highest benchmarks of professional practice for the education of young children. Achieving NAEYC accreditation is a direct testament to the dedication and proficiency of CDC staff in providing appropriate, coordinated, evidence-based, individualized, outcome oriented experiences for children in cooperation with CYS families.

Parent Participation at the Stony CDC:

October 21

Join your child and their classroom for

PUMPKIN DECORATING!



Have a question about CDC programming?

Contact the CDC Management team:

845-938-4798/4523.

Parent Conferences:

November 15-19

Sign-ups for conferences are posted in the classroom through the month of October!

School Age Center



FRONT DESK
845-938-8530.

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West Point School Age Center is currently offering School Year Before and After School care for School Age children enrolled in Child and Youth Services at West Point. The School Age Center provides programming through developmentally appropriate activities and enriched environments that promote learning and exploration in five different services areas through programming and SAC club activities.

Before and After School Registration for School Year 2021 through 2022 now OPEN on militarychildcare.com!

Summer Camp 2021 was a SAC Blast

Summer Camp was a complete BLASST for children and staff that participated in Summer Care 2021. Children were given the opportunity to participate in several different themed activities while in care to include STEAM, active play, independent play, exploration and group activities while in care. Although we were faced with hardship at times due to COVID guidelines and regulations, SAC overcame by providing different opportunities and activities for children to participate in while at the School Age Center. SAC children used their imaginations to guide them while learning and playing. They engaged in virtual tours of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Factory, Crayon Factory where they learned how crayons, highlighters and erasers are made, Under the Sea where they studied the coral reef and Through the Rainforest and Deserts where they learned more about wild life and wild biomes.

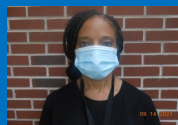
We invited some special visitors to present to the children during summer camp. Fire fighters came to Summer Camp to explain and demonstrate a fire suit and the correct way to wear it; some children even had the opportunity to try the suit themselves. Mad science paid a visit to the children to show them several different formulas that create a bubbling potion. The children also worked with staff to build their own mini-golf course which allowed all children to play mini-golf during the summer. We concluded Summer Camp with an End of Summer Water Play Bash. With another Summer Camp in the books, SAC can't wait to see what Summer 2022 has in store for West Point School Age Center!



**Welcome the
New Staff!**



Ms. Chonda



Ms. Aszalena



Ms. Yvonne

We are hiring!!!
Apply today on
USAjobs.gov

End of Summer Water Play Bash

To close out Summer Camp, the children splashed around in the backyard as a big group for one last water play before the summer ended!



School Age Center Open House

23 September 2021



Our time spent with you and your Family was such a JOY-Thank you!



**Winter Camp
2021**

Our doors are open to all of our SAC families- we hope you will all be able to join us at the Lee CYS Facility for our:

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

14 OCTOBER

1700-1800



December 20th 2021- December 31st 2021
*Open to Occasional Users; Register on
MilitaryChildCare.com

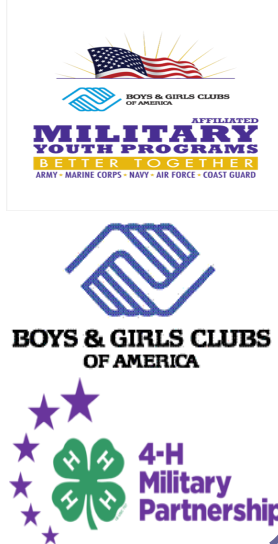




Middle School and Teen Center

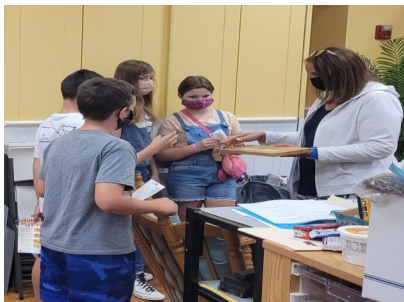
The Youth Center provides programs for youth to get involved in based on our 5 service areas: The Arts, Education & Career Development, Character & Leadership Development, Health, Wellness & Life Skills, and Sports & Recreation. We send out monthly program calendars, trip information, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities to parents emphasizing the particular programs and clubs going on for the current month (if you are not receiving emails, please make sure your contact information is up to date at Parent Central).

***The MST Facility is currently closed until further notice ***



See the Point Tours August 2021

Arts & Crafts



Morgan Farms



Do you want to become a youth sponsor?

Be on the lookout for our next training!



Youth Sponsorship

Scan the QR code below for a survey so we can get to know our YOUTH!





Youth Sports Programs

The West Point Child and Youth Services program is thrilled to announce the Youth Sports and Fitness program has been awarded the Better Sports for Kids Quality Program Provider designation by the National Alliance for Youth Sports.

Earning the Better Sports for Kids Quality Program designation demonstrates that the West Point Youth Sports and Fitness program has taken steps to ensure a safe, quality playing environment for children. The Youth Sports and Fitness program has proven it meets key requirements in five categories – Written Policies and Procedures, Volunteer Screening, Coach Training, Parent Education and Accountability.

The National Alliance for Youth Sports, a 501(c)3 organization headquartered in West Palm Beach, FL., administratively manages the designation which was developed around the National Standards for Youth Sports, a guiding resource originally published in 1987.

This achievement clearly demonstrates the commitment of the Youth Sports and Fitness staff to providing a program that promotes, supports and encourages the development of character, athleticism, sportsmanship and healthy lifestyle skills in a safe and appropriate setting.

West Point Youth Sports and Fitness program's designation is valid until December 31, 2022.



Winter Sports Sign Ups

Winter sports registration will begin on **Tuesday, October 12th for Military & DOD Civilians** and all other eligible participants may register starting **Monday, November 1st**. Registration will conclude for everyone on

Friday, November 10th. Sports offerings will include:

Basketball, Volleyball and Bowling

The season will begin on Monday, December 6th, and conclude on Thursday, February 24th. (Please note sports will pause during winter break December 20th through January 2nd. All sports will resume on Monday January 3rd)

CYS Volunteer Coaches encourage all children to explore the world of sports, learn the fundamentals of good sportsmanship and have fun at the same time. Contact CYS Youth Sports and Fitness to begin the process 845-938-3208. As a perk for volunteering your child/children will play the sport you coach for free.

Greetings from the CYS Nurse



Greetings CYS Families!!!

I hope everyone had a great summer!

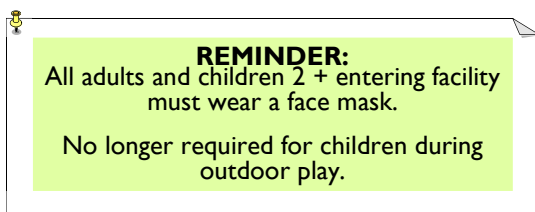
Just a few Health and Safety Reminders.

- Please continue the Covid-19 safety guidelines by: washing your hands for 20 seconds with soap and water OR using hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Health Screening: please monitor your children for cough, congestion, sore throat, fever, decreased appetite, lethargy, and the absence of taste or smell. Stay home if you or your child are sick.
- If your child develops a new medical condition, please contact Parent Central so that the necessary updates can be completed by you and your pediatrician. This will support health, safety and proper care accommodations!
- Flu season runs October 1st- May 31st. Please have your child receive their flu vaccine as required before December 1st and forward the flu vaccine record to Parent Central.
- Following each well child visit please forward the updated vaccine record to Parent Central, this will maintain vaccine compliance.
- If your child develops a new medical condition, please contact Parent Central so that the necessary updates can be completed by you and your pediatrician. This will support health, safety and proper care accommodations!
- As the children return to school, please be sure they are wearing both straps of their backpack evenly distributing the weight. The backpack should weigh only 5%-10% of your child's weight.
- Teach your child their name, address, and phone number.
- Watch for the crossing guard and obey their signals.
- As your child grows have their car seat checked for a proper fit.



Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy, Fall!!!

Christine Marino, CYS Nurse



REMINDER:

All adults and children 2 + entering facility must wear a face mask.

No longer required for children during outdoor play.

Contact Information:

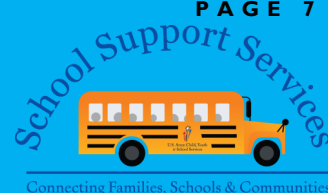
christine.s.marino.naf@mail.mil

845.938.8528



School Support Services

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Don't FALL behind

Get online support—
anytime, anywhere.



TUTOR.COM/MILITARY

Don't Fall Behind

Worried about falling behind this fall? Connect with an encouraging online tutor today to get the subject help you need—FREE for military families from:

Tutor.com/military.

To get started, go to www.tutor.com/military.

We



Veterans

Pin Design

Army Education Outreach Program (AEOP) has partnered with Future Engineers (www.futureengineers.org) on a mini-challenge for students in 4th-8th grade to create a wearable 3D designed pin to show their appreciation for our nation's veterans! You can find the full challenge details, as well as resources and 3D design tips at <https://www.futureengineers.org/weheartveterans>

The challenge is **free to enter** and can be done virtually or in-person, alone or with a teacher. It is **open to 4th-8th grade students** attending a public, private, or home school in the United States, including U.S. territories or possessions and schools operated by the U.S. for the children of US personnel overseas. The challenge will close at 10pm PT on **Veterans Day, 11 November 2021**.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION MEET AND GREET LUNCHEON



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2021 1130 AM—1 PM

WEST POINT CLUB GREY ROOM

For More Information Contact: michi.l.carl.naf@mail.mil 845-938-2092:

Parent & Outreach Services

Parent Participation



Parent Central Services

Monday-Friday

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

845.938.1362

845.938.4458

845.938.0939

Walk-ins welcomed!

**You can earn a 10% discount on
your child care bill!**

The West Point CYS parent Participation Program provides parents an excellent opportunity to share their unique gifts, talents and abilities while volunteering to support regularly scheduled programs (full day and before and/or after school). See your child's program management for ways you can participate (Due to COVID protocols, in-person volunteering may be limited at this time).

Parent Education Opportunities

"Overview of Communicable Diseases"

08 October 2021 @ the Stony CDC 1700-1900

Register starting 27 September 2021 by calling 845-938-3969

**"Let's Talk About Puberty" for parents of 6-12th
graders**

10 November 2021 @ Lee CYS Facility 1700-1830

CYSitter Babysitter Course

16 October 2021 @ Lee CYS Facility
9-4 \$20.00

Registration: 4-14 October 2021 via
WebTrac, in person or by phone;
Youth must be registered with CYS.

Family Resources @ NAEYC.ORG

10 Prop Box Ideas: Mini Learning Centers at Home

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/10-prop-box-ideas-mini-learning-centers-home>

Playdough Power

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/playdough-power>

Instead of Discipline, Use Guidance

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/summer2021/discipline-guidance>



Parent Advisory Board (PAB)

All CYS Patrons are General Members of the West Point CYS PAB. The PAB provides an avenue for two-way feedback about CYS program operations between patrons and the command as well as helps identify parent/community needs. All CYS Patrons are welcome to participate beside the elected PAB Board Officers and West Point CYS Program representatives.

Save the Date!

Our next West Point CYS PAB
meeting will be:
3 November
Time/Place TBD.

General inquiries and requests to be added to the PAB distribution list can be sent to

Secretary Mike Ruppert: mikeruppert97@gmail.com.