Bringing an Occupational Therapy Perspective to Linden Waldorf School

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Bringing an Occupational Therapy Perspective to Linden Waldorf School

Morgan Craig, OTDS
Faculty Mentor: Sue Iliff, PhD, OTR/L
Expert Mentor: Tricia Drake, Head of School

Mission & Vision

• Mission: “Linden Waldorf School’s mission is to provide education that honors the developmental stages of childhood, cultivates a love of learning, and addresses the whole child through the head, hands, and heart.”
• Vision: “We envision a thriving intergenerational and diverse community of lifelong learners dedicated to fostering the ideals of Waldorf education with the intention of cultivating the intellectual curiosity, moral consciousness, and physical well-being of our students, families, and the greater community.”

Identified Needs of the Agency

• Upon arrival, I conducted an initial focus group pre-survey with faculty and staff to establish their perceived needs of the school.
• The following chart illustrates the needs indicated by the pre-survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perception</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensory Processing</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior Management</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Motor Development</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goals of Experiential Component

1. Develop a quick reference observation sensory screen for teacher use
2. Develop educational sensory processing handouts for teacher and/or caregiver use
3. Develop educational fine motor development handouts for teacher and/or caregiver use
4. Develop a presentation to educate teachers and caregivers on sensory processing and fine motor development
5. Increase my knowledge and understanding of sensory processing topics, language, and verbiage
6. Create a sensory space for the school
7. Prepare survey on effectiveness of programming

Outcomes

1. 59-page comprehensive educational document on the topics of fine motor development, sensory processing, and behavior management
2. Quick reference sensory screen for teacher use
3. Movement break schedules
4. Movement break schedule log to track breaks and monitor effectiveness
5. Outside referral resource guide with local offices and practices offering such services
6. An updated school “quiet room” with sensory friendly materials

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References