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Local preschool earns four-star rating

Barrington Early Childhood Center is first school in town to achieve BrightStars rating


BARRINGTON — Barrington Early Childhood Center (BECC), located on College Lane, has been recognized by BrightStars for its commitment to providing high quality preschool education for children in Rhode Island. BECC has achieved a 4-star (out of 5) rating.


"We're proud to participate in BrightStars and to be recognized for our commitment to quality education for the children in our program," said Gayle Justynski, Director of Barrington Early Childhood Center. "BECC has the distinction of being the first program recognized by BrightStars both in Barrington and the East Bay. We are especially proud of the high scores we earned in our evaluation."

A BrightStars rating provides information about program quality to families and the community. Early learning programs participating in BrightStars use its rating system to guide improvement and access quality improvement tools and resources. To participate in BrightStars, BECC was assessed across many quality standards and criteria. The program also received two unannounced visits by BrightStars evaluators.

"BrightStars raises the bar for early childhood programs in Rhode Island," said Tammy Camillo, BrightStars Director.

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"BECC's BrightStars participation is a sign that you are a leader in a statewide effort to invest in high-quality early childhood education," Ms. Camillo wrote in a letter to the school.

BECC's play-based curriculum and small-sized groups have received high praise in early childhood education circles, and are consistent with current research about the ways in which young children learn best.

The BrightStars quality rating and improvement system was developed by a team of local early childhood and school-

age care professionals and is based on national research on what constitutes quality in child care and early childhood education programs.

BrightStars is managed by the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children (RIAYEC), a non-profit organization, and the state affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).