



Karl F. Dean, Mayor

News Release

Metropolitan Action Commission

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Metro Action Merges Cultures of Children into Unique Learning Experience

Irish Educators to observe local Head Start as Model of Inclusive Early Childhood Education

Nashville, TN--The Metropolitan Action Commission Head Start Program will host a visit by Irish School Administrators at its Susan Gray Head Start Center on Wednesday, December 12 from 9:45 am until 12 noon.

The Susan Gray Head Start Center was selected due to the diverse population of children enrolled at this site. The center has 9 languages ranging from Spanish to Farsi identified as the primary language of the children. The administrators are interested in how the center merges the cultures of the children into the classroom learning experience.

The Nashville program is one of various programs that will be observed as a part of the 2007-08 "Inclusive Education in a Diverse Society" program, which provides educational seminars and programs for public officials, business leaders and educators from Ireland and Northern Ireland through a provision by the Boston College Center for Irish Programs in Chestnut Hill, MA.

The Metro Action Head Start Program is the largest provider of Early Childhood Education in Nashville and Davidson County, with a total enrollment of 1,485 children attending seven Head Start centers and three partner sites throughout the city. The program provides preschool education as well as support services for children ages 3 and 4 years old from low income families in preparation for entrance into Kindergarten.

The Susan Gray Head Start site enrolls 220 children.

Directions: Susan Gray Head Start is located at 445 Cotton Lane (37211), just off Nolensville Road between Harding Road and Haywood Lane. From I-24 East, exit at Harding Road and turn right. At Nolensville Road, turn left, then right on Cotton Lane (Lowe's Home Improvement Center on the corner). The center will be on the left.