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Dear Parents,

As the provider of care for your children, we are extremely serious about making our program the best it can be. That is why we are embarking upon a new initiative this fall. The afterschool program your child (ren) attends will be working on a self-study process that will ultimately improve the care your child (ren) will receive on a daily basis. The staff will look at how to create an effective environment that is conducive for all children to learn, grow and ultimately have fun!

Some of the areas for consideration are:

- Does the program community have a shared vision of what it wants to accomplish for the children and youth it serves?
- Does the staff build warm relationships with children and cooperative relationships with each other?
- Does the staff help children learn to make good choices and solve problems?
- Does the program have high priority on welcoming families as partners in their child's growth and the program's development?
- Is the indoor space cozy and comfortable, and work well for different children's needs?
- Does the outdoor space allow children to be independent and creative?
- Are their activity choices for children which reflect their interests and needs, their cultural backgrounds, developmental levels and personalities?
- Does the program have administrative systems that fully support the program?

Self-study and accreditation is about change. We know change is important, and we often resist it. But without it we cannot grow. You will be seeing many changes this year and each change will be rooted in the simple question "is this best for children?"

As we embark on this journey, please feel free to ask questions and make suggestions as appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your time and we look forward to creating the best overall program possible!

The Staff at