



**Calhoun R-VIII**

409 South College  
Calhoun, MO 65323

**School District**

660.694.3422 Phone  
660.694.3501 Fax

**Mr. Shane Stocks**  
Superintendent  
660.694.3422

**Preparing motivated, responsible, productive, lifelong learners**

July 19, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of upcoming changes to the Head Start and Early Head Start programs. For the past three years, the administration of the Head Start program and grant awardee has been the responsibility of the Community Development Institute Head Start (CDI HS), located in Denver, Colorado. CDI HS assumed responsibility for managing the operations of the program to ensure continuity of services to Head Start and Early Head Start children and families at a time when the local grantee could no longer operate the program.

During this interim period, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) launched a process to identify a permanent grantee. DHHS has awarded this grant to a new recipient. Therefore, the administration of the Head Start program will be transferred to the new recipient, who will then have the responsibility of awarding future grants to programs and our agreement is terminated immediately.

What this means is that Head Start will no longer fund the Calhoun Schools, Clinton Schools Early Childhood programs and many other programs they were funding in the West Central Missouri area. The funding we received at Calhoun was \$357,000 annually and that amount paid for over eighty percent (80%) of all operating cost for the Early Childhood Head Start program. Without the federal Head Start grant funds there is no way to remain open or make up that kind of funding from local or state tax dollars we get for the K-12 buildings. The Early Childhood Center is not funded by anything outside of Head Start and parent tuition payments. We do not receive any other federal, state or local funding for the Early Childhood Center.

Due to this change, there will be immediate changes to the Calhoun Early Childhood Education Head Start services. Your child will no longer continue to receive Head Start services at the same location they were previously attending and will have to apply for services at an alternate location through Head Start. Due to these changes and lack of funding, we will not be opening the Early Childhood Center for the 2022-23 school year. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we were just notified of these changes as well by the Office of Head Start.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the office at 660-694-3422.

Sincerely,

Shane Stocks  
Superintendent  
Calhoun R-VIII School District