

KUKYOOSSIN
LEARNING CENTER



Kukyoossin Learning Center

March 2026 Board Report

Brittany Burns, Director

Data Snapshot

Enrollment remains at full capacity with 25 children, which reflects the current limit set by our insurance coverage. There continues to be strong interest from families in the community, with multiple ongoing inquiries for enrollment. Staffing challenges persist; however, consistent support from a reliable substitute has helped maintain daily operations. Our primary program focus this month has been on strengthening professional development, improving behavior supports, and continuing to build a high-quality early learning environment.

Program Highlights

During the month of March, Kukyoossin Learning Center continued to focus on strengthening the overall quality of care and instruction through intentional professional development, consistent routines, and meaningful engagement opportunities for children and families. We welcomed Vanessa Nasset from SPARK Montana, who worked closely with staff to support a shift toward professional development and capacity building. This shift has been especially important due to the nature of childcare, where staff are consistently with children throughout the day and traditional professional development opportunities are limited. By embedding this support into our daily practices, staff are gaining the knowledge and strategies needed to implement best practices in early childhood education. Additionally, we hosted a visit from the Easter Bunny, which provided a fun and memorable experience for the children and helped strengthen connections with families.

Behavior Support Update

The implementation of the biting policy continues to show positive results across the program. We have seen noticeable improvements in both the frequency of incidents and

staff response. This progress is largely due to the consistent use of preventative strategies, increased staff awareness, and strong collaboration with families. Staff are becoming more proactive in identifying triggers and supporting children's social-emotional development, which has helped reduce behaviors before they escalate. The policy has created a more consistent, transparent, and supportive approach to behavior management within our classrooms.

Staffing Update

Staffing continues to present challenges; however, we have made some positive progress this month. A reliable and supportive substitute has been consistently available and has made a significant impact on maintaining classroom stability. This individual has built strong relationships with both children and staff and has helped ensure that daily routines and expectations are consistently met. While this support has been extremely valuable, staffing shortages still impact overall program flexibility and will remain an area of focus moving forward.

Enrollment Update

Enrollment remains capped at 25 children due to current insurance limitations. At this time, I am still awaiting direction from administration regarding potential adjustments that would allow us to increase our capacity. There continues to be a high level of need for childcare within the community, and we have received several inquiries from families seeking placement. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept additional children until this limitation is addressed. Expanding enrollment would allow us to better meet community needs and support continued program growth.

Looking Ahead to April & Beyond

As we move into the next month and begin planning for the upcoming school year, our focus will include exploring opportunities to expand enrollment capacity in collaboration with administration, planning for potential program growth, and identifying additional services that could better meet the needs of our community. We will also continue to strengthen our professional development systems for staff and maintain consistent implementation of behavior supports and classroom routines. Our goal is to continue building a program that reflects best practices in early childhood education and aligns with the Montana Early Learning Standards.



