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Dear Helping Hands Learning Academy Families,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! We are so excited to begin another year of learning, growth, and community with you and your children. Whether you are joining us for the first time or are a returning family, we are grateful that you are part of our school family.

This year, our focus will be on fostering a warm, supportive environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. We believe that children learn best when families and educators work together as partners, and we look forward to building strong connections with each of you.

Throughout the year, your child will engage in a variety of enriching experiences, from hands-on learning in the classroom to outdoor exploration, creative arts, and opportunities for social development. We will continue to follow Creative Curriculum that encourages curiosity, critical thinking, and a love for exploration and learning.

### **Important things to know for the start of the year:**

#### **First Day of School:**

- Child Care Component | September 2, 2025
- Board of Education | September 3, 2025

#### **School Hours and Care Operations:**

- Child Care Component | 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
  - (at an additional cost) extended care 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- Board of Education | 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
  - (at an additional cost) after-care 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM, extended care 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

### **Important Notes / Events:**

#### **Special Note for School-Age Families (Sept. 3rd–5th):**

During the first three days of Board of Education half-day schedules, our school-age children will be picked up from their home schools and brought to the center for aftercare.

Board of Education Families Orientation: September 2, 2025 | 12:45 PM – 1:30 PM

Back to School Night: September 18, 2025 | 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Communication: Look out for our weekly updates via [email / ProCare app / Class Dojo (**BOE Families**) / folder system] to stay informed about classroom happenings and school events.

We encourage you to be active participants in your child's education, whether through volunteering, attending family events, **JOINING our Parent Advisory Committee**, or simply sharing feedback with us. Your involvement makes a big difference in your child's school experience.

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education and well-being. We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead filled with discovery, growth, and joyful moments.

Yours in Education,

Rakia Brown-Crawford, M.Ed.

Education Director