

PARENT HANDBOOK



A Nationally Recognized Facility for the
Study and Treatment of Autism

Youngstown State University

* Fedor Hall

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www.richcenter.org

Mission Statement-

Improve educational experiences and outcomes for individuals with autism and their families through teaching, research, and community engagement.

**Temporary locations at Phelps Building & Beeghly Hall*

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INTRODUCTION

The Paula and Anthony Rich Center for the Study and Treatment of Autism, located on the campus of Youngstown State University, was established in 1995 through the collaborative efforts of the Kosar, Rich (Ricchiuti) and Rubino families.

The Rich Center for Autism serves as a lasting tribute to the memory of Paula and Anthony Rich and their unborn child, whose lives were tragically ended in a plane crash outside Pittsburgh on September 8, 1994. It is our founders' wish that The Rich Center for Autism will unite our community and bring renewed hope in the wake of their terrible tragedy.

The Rich Center for Autism is designed to improve the social, educational, and vocational success of children with autism. Through Youngstown State University, The Rich Center for Autism provides referral, treatment, and support to families as well as education for professionals and students. There are faculty at YSU and other Universities who have an interest in research that will add to the body of literature identifying best practices in educating students on the autism spectrum. When you send your child to The Rich Center for Autism, you may be asked to participate in a research study. The Rich Center for Autism administration will recruit participants for specific research projects in order to meet the needs of the university community. In addition, faculty will place students at The Rich Center for Autism to gain knowledge and skills with our student population, which may lead to improving educational practices for children with autism in the future.

The Rich Center for Autism is a registered Ohio Autism Scholarship Program Provider through the Ohio Department of Education. All Ohio Autism Scholarship Program Provider documents are on file in Columbus, Ohio and in our office. In addition, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licenses The Rich Center for Autism. The license is posted on the bulletin board in the main hall.

The Rich Center for Autism's licensing records include, but are not limited to: Compliance Report Forms, Evaluation Forms, and Building, Electrical, and Fire inspection. These forms and all other compliance forms are available upon request from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The laws and rules governing licensure are available at The Rich Center for Autism.

The toll-free number for the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services is (877) 302-2347. The Rich Center for Autism does not discriminate in the enrollment of anyone upon the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion, sex, disability or national origin.

PROGRAM SERVICE DESCRIPTION / FEE SCHEDULE

	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI) Preschool Program	School-Age
<i>Age</i>	2.5 to 4	5 to 21
<i>Setting</i>	Home Center-Based Classroom Inclusive Center-Based Classroom	Center-Based Classroom Satellite Inclusive Classroom
<i>Staff/Student Ratio</i>	1:2	1:2 to 1:4
<i>Staff Qualifications</i>	Bachelor's degree in special education or related field	Bachelor's degree in special education or related field
<i>Service Rates</i>	<p>BCBA Behavioral Therapy \$55/hr. BCBA Administered Direct Child Assessments and Implementation Services \$250/hr.</p> <p>Intervention Services \$53/hr. Education Services \$34/hr. Speech and Language Services \$65/hr. Occupational Therapy Services \$62/hr. Aide Services \$25/hr. School Health Services \$40/hr.</p>	<p>BCBA Behavioral Services \$55/hr. BCBA Administered Direct Child Assessments and Implementation Services \$250/hr.</p> <p>Intervention Services \$53/hr. Education Services \$34/hr. Speech and Language Services \$65/hr. Occupational Therapy Services \$62/hr. Aide Services \$25/hr. School Health Services \$40/hr.</p>
<i>Overall Goals</i>	Focus on Kindergarten Readiness through Verbal Behavior instruction based on principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)	Focus on transitioning to less restrictive school or supported employment setting through targeting pre-academic, academic, behavioral, and social skills based on principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
<i>Academic Assessments/Curriculum</i>	<p>Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills – Revised (ABLRS-R) Initial Assessment conducted by trained personnel under the supervision of a behavior analyst</p> <p><u>Implementation of IFSPs/IEPs:</u> Type of service- specially designed instruction Type of service-related services (speech/OT) when insurance cannot be billed</p>	<p>The Unique Learning Curriculum Curriculum-Based Assessments Ohio's Learning Standards/Learning Standards Extended</p> <p><u>Implementation of IEPs:</u> Type of service- specially designed instruction Type of service-related services (speech/OT) when insurance cannot be billed</p>
<i>Daily Activities</i>	<p>Intensive discrete trial training Highly structured group activities Social Skills Inclusion preschool (at parents' cost) 4</p>	<p>Structured small group instruction Structured whole group instruction Intensive Individual work times Campus and community-based instruction Recess/lunch/gym/computer</p>

ENROLLMENT

1. The Rich Center for Autism's application with application fee (\$50), with all supporting documents, is due 30 days prior to the first day of attendance.
2. The student's Ohio Autism Scholarship Program Application is to be turned in to The Rich Center for Autism 30 days prior to the first day of attendance.
3. Once the student's scholarship has been awarded, the parent/guardian must bring the letter to The Rich Center for Autism, so a copy can be made for the student file.
4. If a child participated in the scholarship program the previous school year, The Rich Center for Autism will give the family a continuation application starting on April 1st. The parent/ guardian must bring the application into The Rich Center for Autism by May 1st.
5. Service hour requirements for the 2020-2021 school year have been suspended. Throughout the school year, we will notify families of opportunities to assist us with Walmart shopping, events, and other areas of support. In such instances, we will utilize Track It Forward.
6. In compliance with Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, **a medical form must be completed and signed by a licensed physician, due on the first day of attendance and updated annually.**
7. All children are enrolled for the entire school year. Notification in writing is required for schedule adjustments and vacations.
8. The Rich Center for Autism **does not** offer before school or after school child care. If a parent is in need of this service, they may contact Wee Care Daycare located in the same building as The Rich Center for Autism or a facility / child care provider of the parents' choosing. *While The Rich Center for Autism is temporary relocated, Wee Care services are suspended until we return to Fedor Hall.*

THERAPIES

BCBA Administered Assessments and Implementation Services – \$250/hr.

The Rich Center for Autism employs Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs). BCBAs are responsible for conducting assessments to determine the behavioral, developmental, social and emotional needs of the child, and then directly implementing and administering those assessment results to said child.

BCBA Behavioral Therapy-- \$55/hr.

The Rich Center staff is trained in the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy. ABA Therapy is the basis for service delivery at The Rich Center for Autism. Teaching practices are rooted in ABA Therapy.

Intervention Services \$53/hr.

Intervention Services at The Rich Center for Autism are provided based upon the child's needs for specially designed services. Intervention services are provided by intervention specialists and focus on the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals.

Education Services \$34/hr.

The Rich Center for Autism utilized The Unique Learning System Curriculum, curriculum-based assessments and teacher-created lesson plans, which follow Ohio's Learning Standards & Ohio's Learning Standards- Extended.

Aide (Paraprofessional) Services \$25/hr.

Occasionally, some children with autism require additional supports beyond the 2:1 ratio typically provided to students at The Rich Center for Autism. In these cases, The Rich Center for Autism may provide a paraprofessional to offer the necessary additional support to the child.

School Health Services \$40/hr.

The Rich Center for Autism employs a full-time nurse with a Bachelor of Nursing degree. Some students require nursing services for the administration of medication and implementation of care plans. The school nurse is also responsible for maintaining medical records, tracking attendance patterns, providing consultation to families, communicating with the child's physician, and instructing staff in the areas of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), crisis prevention intervention (CPI), administration of medication and much more.

Speech and Language Therapy \$65/hr.

Speech therapy focuses on improving a child's speech and abilities to understand and express language, including nonverbal language. Speech therapists, or speech and language pathologists (SLPs), are the professionals who provide these services. Speech therapy includes two components: 1) coordinating the mouth to produce sounds to form words and sentences (to address articulation, fluency, and voice volume regulation); and 2) understanding and expressing language (to address the use of language through written, pictorial, body, and sign forms, and the use of language through alternative communication systems such as social media, computers, and iPads). The Rich Center for Autism contracts with Kids Choice Therapy, LLC., a local company, for these services.

Occupational Therapy \$62/hr.

Occupational therapists work to promote, maintain, and develop the skills needed by students to be functional in a school setting and beyond. Occupational therapists use a holistic approach in planning programs. They take into account the physical, social, emotional, sensory and cognitive abilities and needs of students. The Rich Center for Autism contracts with Kids Choice Therapy, LLC., a local company, for these services.

The Rich Center for Autism provides one 30-minute session each per week of speech and occupational therapy services listed on a child's Individual Education Plan.

Families may choose to have additional speech and occupational therapy at The Rich Center for Autism billed through their insurance. Families with low copays (less than \$32.50/session for speech and \$31.00/session for occupational therapy) who choose to have additional therapies, will be financially responsible for the cost of the copay. For families with extremely high copays, The Rich Center for Autism will pay insurance copays up to \$32.50 per 30 minutes of speech therapy and \$31.00 per 30 minutes of occupational therapy. Families will be responsible for the remainder cost of the copay and deductible should they choose additional therapy. Additional therapies billed through insurance are *optional*.

Classroom Supply List

Families are asked to provide the necessary supplies, when requested quarterly by classroom teachers. If families would like to pay the full amount for supplies (\$270.00), they may do so by September 30th. Please make checks payable to: The Rich Center for Autism. Failure to provide the requested items by the designated quarterly due date, will result in a charge of \$67.50, or 25% of the total supply fee. Please reference the following for list distribution and due dates:

Quarter 1: Lists distributed 1st week of school.....Items due by October 5, 2020

Quarter 2: Lists distributed November 9, 2020.....Items due by December 4, 2020

Quarter 3: Lists distributed January 11, 2021.....Items due by February 5, 2021

Quarter 4: Lists distributed March 15, 2021.....Items due by April 16, 2021

FUNDING SOURCES

Ohio Autism Scholarship Program

Students who are identified as having autism and who reside in the State of Ohio are eligible for the Ohio's Autism Scholarship Program, which provides up to \$27,000 for the child's educational and therapeutic needs. Unfortunately, the cost to educate and treat a child with Autism far exceeds this amount. The average cost to educate a child with autism at The Rich Center for Autism is more than \$50,000. The Rich Center for Autism subsidizes the difference in costs through fundraising efforts such as events, grants and other appeals.

Parents are encouraged to sign the *Approval for Deposit of Scholarship Checks* form so that The Rich Center for Autism may deposit the scholarship checks as they arrive to the center. The Center Operations Coordinator will make a copy of the check and send it home in the child's blue folder as evidence The Rich Center for Autism received and deposited each check.

Parents', whose children have received special education services for the cost statement period and do not sign or refuse to sign their check, will be financially responsible for the cost of services rendered. They will receive an invoice from Youngstown State University, and ultimately the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Private Pay

For families who are privately paying their child's tuition for preschool, a payment agreement must be signed and on file with The Rich Center for Autism. Payments must be made no later than Friday for the upcoming week. If a parent or guardian does not pay their fee on time, services for their child will be suspended and the student cannot attend school until the bill is paid. Fees are based upon the child's needs and are specific to the child's IEP.

Unpaid invoices will be turned over to YSU and ultimately the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Satellite Locations

Families, whose child attends a Rich Center Satellite inclusion program, will be required to pay a fee established by The Rich Center for Autism and satellite administration to cover the cost of tuition. The Ohio Autism Scholarship Program cannot be used to pay for private tuition at a parochial school unless the particular parochial school is also an Ohio Autism Scholarship Program Provider. A signed fee/payment agreement must be on file with The Rich Center for Autism.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

Notice to The Rich Center

A two-week written notice of intent to withdraw from the program is required.

- The parent/guardian must notify their district of residence and Ohio Department of Education of their intent to change autism providers.
- The Ohio Autism Scholarship Program will continue to be billed during the two-week period. This is to give parents/guardians an opportunity to make alternate arrangements or continue placement at The Rich Center for Autism.
 - Before exiting the program, the parent/guardian must meet with the administration to finalize the final invoice for services rendered. **If the parent chooses to transition the child to another provider and assigns the remaining scholarship dollars to the new provider before The Rich Center for Autism submits the last bill, the parent/guardian becomes liable for the outstanding invoice and it will be collected by Youngstown State University. If left unpaid, YSU will forward any outstanding balance to the Ohio Attorney General's Office. This also applies to summer session, if parent chooses to transition the child to another provider and assigns the remaining scholarship dollars to the new provider before The Rich Center for Autism submits the last bill, the parent/guardian becomes liable for the outstanding invoice and it will be collected by Youngstown State University. If left unpaid, YSU will forward any outstanding balance to the Ohio Attorney General's Office.**
- Refer to the Ohio Autism Scholarship Program Guidelines for scholarship withdrawal procedures.
<https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/Autism-Scholarship-Program/Autism-Scholarship-Guidelines.pdf.aspx>

Transitioning Students to the District of Residence or Other Programs

Per the Ohio Department of Education Ohio Autism Scholarship Program, families who have decided to transition their child to their school district or another program in the Fall, will have to exit The Rich Center program in mid-June when the school year ends. Ohio Autism Scholarship Program funds are not to be used for extended school year services only. However, if you want to send your child to summer school, you can pay out of pocket for the tuition costs. Please see The Rich Center for Autism administration for the cost.

Parents will receive a commitment letter in April to be returned prior to May 1st, which declares the parents' intentions for summer and fall services. Failure to submit the form prior to May 1st may jeopardize the child's placement.

ATTENDANCE

School Calendar

At the beginning of the school year, families will be provided a school calendar that will indicate holidays, YSU closings, in-service days and conferences. This calendar is subject to change with notice to families. Can locate the school calendar anytime on website: <http://richcenter.ysu.edu>

Inclement Weather

On rare occasions, it might be necessary to close The Rich Center for Autism due to poor weather conditions. If circumstances should arise, watch television stations WFMJ and WKBN for closing information. Also, look for a message from One Call Now.

One Call Now

The Rich Center for Autism utilized a web-based service known as One Call Now. Phone calls and text messages are sent to families about important updates from The Rich Center for Autism. Please make sure your contact info is up to date on One Call Now. See Office Manager in the front office to update contact information. Additionally, The Rich Center for Autism requests families to Opt-in for text messaging. NOTE: The text message feature is extremely important so we may reach families in the event of an emergency.

How to Opt-In to One Call Now Text Messaging

To: 22300

Message: ALERT

To Opt-Out of One Call Now, please simply notify the office coordinator at The Rich Center for Autism at (330) 941-1927, and she will gladly remove any and all numbers from the One Call Now list.

Dress Code

1. Please label all clothing with child's name.
2. Each child has his / her own cubby or locker to keep clothing in.
3. Shoes must be brought when boots are worn. Please label boots with the child's name.
4. Please have children wear clothes that are easy for the child to remove when using toilet facilities.
5. Please have children wear appropriate clothes for the weather.
Gloves, boots, hats, layered clothes are helpful.
6. Please dress your child in clothes that you do not mind if they get paint and glue on. (The paint states that it is washable, but it does not wash out completely.)
7. Please have children wear closed toe shoes. Tennis shoes are preferred.
8. **Please provide a change of clothes in a large Ziploc bag for your child. Clothes will remain at the school for emergency use. Be sure to include shirt, pants, shoes, socks, and several pair of underwear or diapers. Remember to replace them as the child grows and as seasons change.**
9. **If your child comes home wearing clothing from The Rich Center for Autism, please wash and return the clothing items the next day.**

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is expected of all students and is a necessary factor in achieving success. Work missed can never be made up in a completely satisfactory manner because the value of class activities is missed forever. In addition, if your child is absent on their scheduled day for therapy, the therapy session will not be rescheduled.

1. Absences are excusable for illness, recovery from an accident, appointments, and death in immediate family, or celebration of religious holidays. After 3 consecutive sick days, will need a doctor's excuse to return to school.
2. Absences for such reasons as vacations or non-school activities are permitted with written notice to The Rich Center administration. We encourage families to vacation together but prefer that vacations be scheduled during school closings listed on the calendar.
3. The Rich Center for Autism offers summer services at no cost to families and attendance is optional. Summer programming is in July and August. If a family is opting out, they must provide a written notice to The Rich Center administration by May 1st. **Families who neglect to notify The Rich Center for Autism of their intent to opt out of summer services by May 1st will receive an invoice for the cost of summer services.**

Call-in Procedure for Absences

Parents must call the school nurse, (330) 941-2315, by 9am each day a student is absent. If parents have not called by 9:00am, school personnel will call to check on the child. In the event that home or school did not make a phone contact, parents are to send a signed and dated note on the day the child returns to school explaining the reason for the absence. **Please note: You may call at any time PRIOR to 9:00am and leave a message on the nurse's voice mail (330) 941-2315.**

Excessive Absences/Tardiness

Excessive absence from school is defined as ten or more unexcused days and/or days tardy. Classes start at 9:00 am and doors will be closed at that time. **If your child arrives any time after 9:00am, you are to sign them in at the front office and wait for a teacher to come and transition the student to class. No child is to be left unattended. Arrival after 9:00 am is considered tardy.**

1. At 10 days unexcused absences and/or days tardy, parents will receive a letter indicating the total days absent and the total days tardy. An administrator from The Rich Center for Autism will schedule a meeting with the parent/guardian to discuss the circumstance surrounding the absences or tardy and to determine if further action is required.
2. At 15 days unexcused absences and/or days tardy, parents will receive a letter indicating the total days absent and the total days tardy recorded. The parent and/or guardian must submit a written statement explaining the reason for the absence and or/tardy.
3. At 20 days unexcused absences and/or days tardy, The Rich Center for Autism administration will send a letter to the parent and/or guardian notifying them that their child is exited from The Rich Center for Autism. The Ohio Department of Education and the district of residence will also be notified that the student is no longer attending The Rich Center for Autism.

Children Arriving to The Rich Center for Autism from Other Programs

At times it may be necessary for a child to be dropped off at The Rich Center for Autism from another program (Example: Child arrives from a daycare center). If a child is scheduled to arrive and does not, we will first contact the parent to confirm that the child is scheduled to be at The Rich Center for Autism that day, and then contact the program in charge of the student. We will then consult with the parent to determine further action.

Custody Agreements

If there are custody issues involved with your child, you **must** provide The Rich Center for Autism with a judgment entry from the court indicating who has custody and permission to have access to your child. The Rich Center for Autism may not deny a parent access to their child unless there is documentation that limits access.

Arrival and Dismissal

Phelps Building (Temporary)

Arrival and dismissal will occur along Lincoln Avenue in front of the Phelps Building accessible entrance. Families will access the drop-off and pick-up lane by accessing Rayen Avenue to Hazel Street. The drop-off and pick-up lane may be accessed by turning right at the corner of Hazel Street and Lincoln Avenue. Families are asked to line up along Hazel Street with their hazard lights flashing until there are open spaces along Lincoln Avenue.

Beeghly Hall (Temporary)

Arrival and dismissal will occur along Rayen Avenue (250 Rayen Avenue) in front of the Beeghly College of Education. Families will access the drop-off and pick-up lane by accessing Rayen Avenue via Wick Avenue. Families are asked to line up along Rayen in the shuttle lane with their hazard lights flashing until approached by Rich Center staff members.

For families who will be dropping off in both locations, please drop-off at the Phelps Building first, followed by Beeghly Hall. Please reference the Plan of Action for the 2020-2021 School Year and supplemental drop-off and pick-up guidance documents for additional information.

Fedor Hall

Arrival and dismissal will occur at the North entrance (M-82 parking lot side) of the building. Families will access the drop off lane from the eastbound service road just passed Stambaugh Stadium. In order to indicate “Rich Center family,” please turn your flashers on upon entrance. This will notify the attendance you are dropping off or picking up at The Rich Center for Autism. A Rich Center staff member will greet you and your child(ren) as you approach the drop-off/pick-up area. Please do not get out of your car to assist with the procedures until prompted to do so by a Rich Center staff member. You will need to sign your child in and out every day using Tadpoles. Arrival or drop-off time is from 8:30–8:50AM and dismissal or pick-up will be from 2:30–2:50 PM. If you require special arrangements to use visitor/short-term parking during drop-off and/or pick-up, please contact the main office at 330.941.1927.

No child will be released from The Rich Center for Autism to a person not authorized by a parent. We **MUST** have written notification or verbal authorization at the time of arrival or dismissal for this change. (Person must have proper identification.)

For the safety of ALL staff and students at The Rich Center for Autism, at no time, unless directed by a staff member from The Rich Center for Autism or an employee of YSU, shall anyone pull out of line during drop off or pick up.

Admittance to the building before 8:30am will not be permitted. Admittance to the building before 2:30pm for pick up will not be permitted, unless special arrangements are made.

If you arrive at The Rich Center for Autism after 9:00 AM, you will not be able to access the drop-off lane. Therefore, you will need to access the M-82 parking lot and access a Rich Center/Visitor Parking space. You must enter through the north facing door, which faces the M-82 parking lot and press the buzzer for admittance.

Early Pick-Up

Please notify The Rich Center for Autism at (330) 941-1927 by 1:00 if you will need to pick up your child early due to an emergency, and unforeseen circumstance or an appointment. The office staff must notify the parking attendant to be expecting you. Failure to notify The Rich Center for Autism office staff may result in a delay in your departure.

Late Pick-Up

Late pick up is highly discouraged as this interferes with meetings and planning for staff at The Rich Center for Autism, and sometimes with the staff's ability to go home at the end of the work day. If you are habitually late to pick up your child (more than 3 times late without notice), you will receive an invoice for the additional time:

3:01 pm - 3:15 pm	\$15.00
3:16 pm - 3:30 pm	\$30.00
3:31 pm - 4:00 pm	\$45.00

Invoices are expected to be paid by Friday, or you will jeopardize your child's attendance for the following week.

Please call 330.941.1927 if you running late for pick-up.

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures (Fedor Hall only)

Arrival and dismissal will occur at the North entrance (M-82 parking lot side) of the building. Families will access the drop off lane from the eastbound service road just passed Stambaugh Stadium. In order to indicate “Rich Center family,” please turn your flashers on upon entrance. This will notify the attendance you are dropping off or picking up at The Rich Center for Autism. A Rich Center staff member will greet you and your child(ren) as you approach the drop-off/pick-up area. Please do not get out of your car to assist with the procedures until prompted to do so by a Rich Center staff member. You will need to sign your child in and out every day using Tadpoles. Arrival or drop-off time is from 8:30–8:50AM and dismissal or pick-up will be from 2:30–2:50 PM. If you require special arrangements to use visitor/short-term parking during drop-off and/or pick-up, please contact the main office at 330.941.1927.

Additional Notes:

- Rich Center staff members will be receiving students and families at approximately six vehicles at a time or about the length of the building. It is imperative that you remain in your vehicle until prompted for drop-off and/or pick-up.
- During arrival and dismissal times, staff members must devote full attention to all of the children. Please keep conversations brief. If you need to communicate specific information, a written note or email is preferred.
- At no time, unless directed by a staff member from The Rich Center for Autism or an employee of YSU, shall anyone pull out of line during drop-off.
- Please be sure to watch for all children who may elope from teachers and/or caretakers during arrival and dismissal.

For information regarding our temporary relocations to the Phelps Building and Beeghly Hall, please refer to page 13.

PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING CONSUMER SATISFACTION

Home Notes

Home notes are provided daily on your child's progress. Please check your child's *blue folder* daily for information and communication from The Rich Center for Autism and/or your child's teacher.

Parent – Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences for the **2020-2021 school year will take place via Zoom or phone**. If this format changes, families will be notified and regular conferences will be scheduled accordingly.

There are three scheduled parent teacher conferences annually to review student's progress and to determine parent needs and satisfaction. **Per the Ohio Autism Scholarship Program, parents/guardians are required to participate and sign off that they reviewed their child's progress.** Progress summaries are sent to the school district of residence for their information. Parents can request additional conferences as issues arise, by contacting their child's supervisor.

Scheduling Time to Meet with Teachers and/ or Staff

During arrival and dismissal times, staff members must devote full attention to all of the children. Please keep conversations brief. If you need to communicate specific information, a written note or email is preferred.

If, at any time, you have special concerns regarding your child's education or treatment, please feel free to contact your child's teacher via email, sending a note, or call the office to leave a message for the teacher. During school hours, teacher cannot accept phone calls. If you have a message for a teacher during school hours, please call or email the office, and we will relay the message. The teacher will respond as soon as possible.

If you wish to talk to the teacher at length, you can email the teacher and, if needed, arrange a time to meet in person or over the phone.

Please do not discuss problems or concerns in the presence of your child or other parents.

Please communicate with the school nurse about any changes at home or within the family (**i.e., parent on a trip, family member in the hospital, sick grandparent, change in medication, etc.**) These changes can affect your child's behavior, and it is useful for staff to be aware of these developments. The Rich Center for Autism will respect your privacy.

Parent Advisory Board

The Rich Center for Autism Parent Advisory Board was established as a liaison for parents and TRC administration. Together administrators and the Parent Advisory Board members work together to create open forums of communication and establish a process for policy review and conflict resolution. Parents on this board meet with families throughout the year as a group and individually to gather parent input and satisfaction.

Members of the Parent Advisory Board are:

Kelly Willis
Beckey Hagan
Rita Nicholas
Vinny & Tess Sisson

Jenny Ellis
Michelle Lopatta
Chris Kucik
Yocelin Stefko

Lisa Smallwood
Tracy Marciano
Stephanie Wells

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Snack

A snack is administered by The Rich Center for Autism teachers provided the parents have supplied the Rich Center for Autism with the appropriate food items. Snacks provided by The Rich Center for Autism are specifically taken directly from the child's reinforcement menu. If any child is on a "special" or modified diet, the parent must provide the appropriate snacks. They must also have the physician sign, date, and give instruction on the **ODJFS Parent/ Guardian request for Administration of Medication** form regarding the specifics of the modified diet.

Lunch

Parents/guardians will provide lunch for their child. The Rich Center for Autism can keep food cold and heat food. If any child is on a "special" or modified diet, the parent must provide the appropriate meal. They must also have the physician sign, date, and give instruction on the **ODJFS Parent/ Guardian request for Administration of Medication** form regarding the specifics of the modified diet.

Location Available for Breastfeeding

Mothers who are breastfeeding and/or pumping breastmilk can use the Nursing Office as an on-site space. Privacy will be provided. The Rich Center for Autism will not provide any materials needed for breastfeeding and/or pumping.

Per Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) we are required to provide you with the following nutritional information.

A healthy diet that includes adequate portions from all of the food groups is necessary for helping your child grow and develop to his/her full potential.

The Rich Center for Autism follows ODJFS guidelines and provides one snack and one meal to your child during the scheduled school day. We provide food sent in by parents* and ensure that no child goes for more than four hours without at least a snack.

When providing your child's lunches and snack, the goal is to pack items that meet one-third of the child's recommended daily dietary allowances as specified by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ODJFS Recommended Nutritional Guidelines

Meals you send should include: 1 serving of milk, 1 serving of meat or meat alternative, 2 servings of fruits and/or vegetables, and 1 serving of bread or grains. The table below suggests appropriate serving sizes based on your child's age.

Meal	Component	Minimum Serving		
	Age of Child	1 & 2 years	3-5 years	6-12 years
Breakfast	Fluid Milk	½ cup	¾ cup	1 cup
	Juice/Fruit or Vegetable	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup
	Grains/Breads/Dry Cereal	½ slice ¼ cup or ⅓ oz.	½ slice ⅓ cup or ½ oz.	½ slice ¾ cup or 1 oz.
Meal	Meat or Meat Alternative	1 oz	1 ½ oz.	2 oz.
	Fruit Or Vegetable	¼ cup	½ cup	¾ cup
	Grains/Breads/Pasta/Noodles (cooked)	½ slice ¼ cup	½ slice ¼ cup	1 slice ½ cup
	Fluid Milk	½ cup	¾ cup	1 cup
Snack	Meat or Meat Alternative	½ oz.	½ oz.	1 oz.
	Fruit Or Vegetable	½ cup	½ cup	¾ cup
	Grains/Breads/Pasta/Noodles (cooked)	½ slice ¼ cup or ⅓ oz.	½ slice ¼ cup or ⅓ oz.	½ slice ¼ cup or ⅓ oz.
	Fluid Milk	½ cup	½ cup	1 cup

*Please note: The Rich Center for Autism often uses food items for the purposes of rewards, incentives, social training, etc. We will accommodate food allergies, preferences, and special dietary needs as appropriate when choosing these items.

* *In the event your child forgets his/her lunch, The Rich Center for Autism DOES have some food items available to offer your child, but they may not be items your child prefers or will eat. **If your child has dietary restrictions, you must supply foods for the supplemental food bin in the event your child forgets his/her lunch.** Please remember to send a meal with your child daily.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT

The Rich Center for Autism's administration believes that all students have the right to an educational environment that is conducive to the learning process and safe for students and staff members. Therefore, appropriate guidelines and review procedures for student behaviors and procedures for student discipline have been developed and are consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

An employee or contracted agent shall not inflict corporal punishment or cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student to reform unacceptable behavior or as a penalty for unacceptable behavior. Thus, teachers, administrators, and other contracted personnel shall not strike or spank a student with or without an object or use unreasonable physical force against a student such as to cause bodily harm or substantial emotional harm to reform unacceptable behavior or as punishment. School employees, who are trained in Crisis Prevention Intervention strategies, may use holds when it is necessary under the circumstances to prevent a student from causing bodily harm to him/herself or others.

Positive Behavioral Intervention Support Guidelines

Each student at The Rich Center for Autism will receive evidenced-based behavioral and educational accommodations identified by the National Autism Center for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. All instructors are trained and monitored in the use of these behavioral strategies. Examples of these supports include but are not limited to; visual supports, schedules, positive reinforcement, social skill training, classroom modifications and self-management. These accommodations are considered Tier 1 level of support and all students at The Rich Center for Autism receive these accommodations as needed.

If Tier 1 strategies do not prevent or reduce a student's problem behavior, then a referral will be made to the behavior analyst. This referral moves the student to Tier 2 on the school wide positive behavior intervention support system. The behavior analyst will collect baseline, take anecdotal data, and/or conduct parent and teacher interviews. At a Tier 2 level, students may be exhibiting mild to moderate problem behaviors, behaviors that are NOT dangerous or occur in many settings.

After completing the appropriate data collection, a Tier 2 behavioral strategy plan will be written to reduce problem behaviors, teach alternative behaviors and effectively respond when problem behaviors occur. The parents/guardians will receive a copy of the plan. The student's teachers will be trained to implement the plan and will keep data to verify its effectiveness. If the data does not support effectiveness, the Tier 2 plan will be revised.

If after a reasonable amount of time there is no significant improvement in the student's problem behavior, or the student exhibits moderate to severe problem behavior; dangerous behaviors that cause injury to self or others or property damage, the student will move to Tier 3 of the school wide positive behavior intervention support system. When applicable, at this level a student will receive a *comprehensive* FBA; a time intensive process that involves archival records review, family centered planning, indirect/direct methods of data collection, and when necessary, a functional analysis. The goal of the functional analysis will be to evaluate challenging behaviors that interfere with learning and

independence in the classroom environment. Sessions will last no longer than one hour per day and activities will include observing your child interact with the therapist in different environmental contexts to determine the underlying cause of challenging behavior. Your child's behavior will be monitored during each session and the therapist will react in different ways when challenging behavior occurs. Only a behavior analyst can conduct this type of FBA.

Parents and guardians must give permission for the comprehensive assessment to be conducted in order to maintain placement at The Rich Center for Autism. Once the positive behavior intervention and support plan (PBIS) is developed, a meeting will be scheduled with the parents/guardians to review the plan before implementation. After the parents/guardians give permission for implementation, the teachers will be trained and monitored for treatment integrity. The PBISP will be reviewed regularly to determine the plan's effectiveness. If the data does not support effectiveness, it will be revised.

Students with Elevated Behavioral Concerns

When behavioral data suggests little or no progress being made for students receiving consistent Tier 3 behavioral supports, parents/guardians may be contacted to meet with the team to discuss continued concerns and/or placement options. This includes but is not limited to instances when a student's behavior causes injury to a peer or teacher. Our goal is to first utilize the team and discuss potential changes to the student's behavioral plan as well as the supports in place at The Rich Center for Autism. In some cases, this team discussion might also center around the student's educational placement at The Rich Center or other providers in the region. If The Rich Center for Autism is unable to provide supports that result in adequate progress and/or those that maintain the safety of the child, other students, and staff, alternative placements will be recommended.

MISCELLANEOUS

Community-Based Instruction

All community-based instruction activities have been suspended at this time. As we continue to navigate COVID19 pandemic, we will provide updates regarding classroom specific and center-wide activities.

Community-Based Instruction Outings are tied to instructional goals. These outings are opportunities for families to connect with their children in a variety of settings with support from The Rich Center for Autism staff. The expectation is that families will participate fully with their children during these planned activities. For this reason, siblings are not to attend community-based outings, because the focus of these outings is to improve educational and behavioral outcomes for the Rich Center student.

Community based instruction outings will be scheduled throughout the school year. Two activities are **classroom-specific activities** and are optional; therefore, if you choose to opt-out of this activity, you will have the option of sending your child to school for the full day on the day of the classroom-based activity. For the **center-wide activity**, **all teachers will be in attendance**. If your family chooses to opt out, school will be cancelled for your child that day.

Families will sign their child out the day of the activity and will transport their child to the community-based outing. At no time will employees from The Rich Center for Autism transport a student. The costs for these outings are the sole responsibility of the families.

Swimming Policy

All swimming activities, including swim lessons have been suspended at this time. As we continue to navigate COVID19 pandemic, we will provide updates regarding classroom specific and center-wide activities.

The Rich Center teachers have the option to take their students to the swimming pool located on campus at Beeghly Center. The pool is inaccessible to children when not in use. The students do not have access to saunas, hot tubs, spas, or wading pools. Every classroom has to ability to take their students swimming but only some use the pool. If a classroom chooses to use the pool, a swimming permission form is completed by the parent/guardian. While swimming in the pool, the students are actively supervised by the teachers, parents (on occasion), and the lifeguard on duty.

Outdoor Play

Research has shown that children stay healthier when they have daily outdoor play. Based on this information and state requirements, outdoor play will be included in our program on a daily basis. We will limit the amount of time outside when the temperatures are very warm or very cold. Children will not be taken outside when the temperature (wind chill and heat index factored in) drop below 35 degrees or rise above 90 degrees. If the situation requires, we will also adjust outdoor time due to rain, humidity, wind chill, pollen count, threatening weather, ozone warnings, etc. On days that outdoor play is not provided due to these conditions, we will include a time for indoor gross motor activities. Please send your child with the proper clothing so they may be comfortable and safe whenever we are outside. This includes snow pants, hats, mittens, and boots in the winter.

Transitioning

You will be notified when your child is ready to move to another classroom. As part of the procedure, The Rich Center for Autism staff will develop a transition plan and will meet with the new teachers in order to pass on important information about your child. When transitioning to the child's local school district, The Rich Center for Autism staff, parents, and school representatives will collaborate in order to develop and implement a transition plan.

Child Abuse Reporting

All staff members are mandated reporters of child abuse. If employees of The Rich Center for Autism have suspicions that a child is being abused or neglected, they must make a report to your child's County Children's Service Board. The safety of the children is always our first concern.

Diapering

We do not provide infant care; however, we have children who wear diapers. Clothing and diapers will be changed immediately when wet or soiled. All soiled areas of the child's body will be cleaned with a disposable wipe. If a diaper-changing surface is used, a disposable separation material between the child and the changing surface will be applied. A different separation material shall be used for each diaper change. No child will be left unattended on the diaper changing table. Children who are waiting for toileting and diapering will sit in a chair in the restroom. If soiled diapers or clothing are to be sent home with a parent, the diapers or clothing will be stored for no longer than one day in an individual covered container or plastic bag away from the child's belongings and out of the reach of children. Soiled disposable diapers are stored in a plastic-lined covered container that prevents hand contamination and is not easily accessible to children and diapers are discarded daily or more frequently as needed to eliminate odor.

HEALTH POLICIES

Forms

Your child's health is a major importance to us. Upon enrollment, you will receive several forms regarding your child's health. These forms must be completed and returned to The Rich Center for Autism **before** your child can participate in the program.

These forms include:

- Medical Statement / Immunization Record
- Medication Administration form.

In addition, **your physician must update these forms annually in order for your child to continue attending the program.**

You will also need to fill out an Emergency Transportation authorization from which gives us the necessary information in the event of an emergency. If you do not agree to allow The Rich Center for Autism to arrange for transportation in an emergency situation, your child will not be allowed to continue to receive services at The Rich Center for Autism.

The Rich Center for Autism works at keeping the environment as clean and sanitary as possible. Toys, tabletops, and counter tops are sanitized daily. Unfortunately, young children in a group setting, especially for the first time, are susceptible to many common illnesses.

A daily health inspection is given upon your child's arrival at school. Your child may be sent home if he/ she become ill and will be isolated from other children. You will be called to come and get your child. There is a cot in the Nurse's office, which your child may lay on to make the child as comfortable as possible.

Should a staff member become ill, she/he will be relieved from the responsibility of their assigned children and will be replaced if needed, to stay within state required Child/ Teacher Ratios.

Immunizations

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services requires children be current on immunizations. A child who attends The Rich Center for Autism can be exempted from taking vaccines for medical, religious, and philosophical reasons as long as a parent or guardian provides the school administration with a written statement parents alongside a waiver form.

For a vaccination exemption, a parent or guardian must provide the following:

- a religion or denomination for religious exemptions
- a reason of "good cause" for ethical exemptions
- a signed statement from a physician for medical exemptions

The relatively simple form, however, does come with one limitation: in the event of an outbreak, the school may exclude the student from attendance to protect the health of all students, including the unvaccinated, in addition to the staff.

Communicable Diseases

The Rich Center for Autism will follow the communicable disease chart for proper management of suspected illnesses, located in the front foyer. Some of the common communicable diseases include:

Chicken Pox	Hepatitis	Impetigo
Strep Throat	Meningitis	Scarletina
Scarlet Fever	Mononucleosis	Measles
Head Lice	Ring Worm	Influenza
Venereal Disease	Mumps	Whooping Cough
Pink Eye		

Any child isolated due to suspected communicable disease will be:

- Cared for in the nurse's office or in a part of the room not being used by the children.
- Within sight and hearing of an adult at all times. No child will ever be left alone or unsupervised.
- Made comfortable, provided with a cot and given plenty of TLC (tender loving care). Any blanket used by the child will need to be taken home and laundered. Cots will be cleaned and disinfected
- Observed carefully for worsening condition, and
- Released to a parent or guardian, person designated by the parent or guardian as soon as possible.

If your child has been exposed to a communicable disease, it will be posted on the wall outside the main office and a note will be sent home.

Illness

In addition to information below, please reference Plan of Action for 2020-2021 regarding specific guidelines and procedures related to COVID-19.

If your child is not going to be in school due to illness, appointment, sleep disturbances, etc., a call must be made to the nurse (330) 941-2315 to report your child off for that day. Each day your child is off, you must call the nurse. Calling off your child helps the nurse track illness so that outbreaks can be prevented.

A child with any of the following symptoms will be immediately isolated and the parents or emergency contacts will be called to come and take the child home in order to prevent illness from spreading throughout The Rich Center for Autism.

A phone call will be made for the following reasons:

- Temperature of 101 and/or in combination with any other signs of illness.
- Diarrhea (more than 3 abnormally loose stools within 24 hours.)
- Severe coughing (causing the child to become red in the face or make whooping sound) or coughing that interferes with the child's daily work.
- Difficulty or rapid breathing.
- Redness of the eye, obvious discharge, matted eyelashes, burning itching.
- Untreated skin patches, unusual spots or rashes.
- Unusually dark urine or gray or white stool.
- Evidence if untreated lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestation.
- Stiff neck with elevated temperature.
- Vomiting more than once or when accompanied another sign of illness.
- A Sore throat or difficulty swallowing.
- Copious amounts of nasal drainage that interferes with the child's work time.

If your child looks ill and or doesn't feel well, we are asking that you keep your child home till symptoms resolve. We want your child at The Rich Center for Autism for learning and growing but if he/she doesn't feel well learning is impaired. This will also aid in keeping illness to a minimum within the facility.

Must be available by phone for a call from The Rich Center. Please make sure your voicemail is set-up and has space to take voicemails. Listed below is the chain of command for calls:

1. Primary contact number will be called first
2. Second contact number will be contacted
3. Then emergency contacts will be contacted

Depending on the severity of illness/injury The Rich Center for Autism will move quickly through contacts. Please let those who are on your contact list know that they are listed as contacts for your son/daughter.

Parents/guardians need to call The Rich Center with any medical issues or newly diagnosed issues that may impact others within the facility. Even if the issues do not affect others in the facility it gives the medical staff and teachers insight into your son/daughter.

Please remember to adhere to the school's attendance policy. If your son/daughter is going to miss school, The Rich Center needs to be contacted.

Re-admittance of Children

Children will be readmitted to school in the following ways;

- A phone call from parents stating the progression of the illness, steps taken to alleviate the illness and the absence of the illness.
- A note from the child's physician stating the absence of the illness or the parent has complied with the required absence time as stated by the communicable disease chart.
- No vomiting or diarrhea for a **full 24 hours**.
- No fever for a **full 24 hours without the aid of medication**.
- No profuse coughing (More than 2 or 3 times in a row).
- Mucous from the nose is not yellow or green.
- Children who are not well enough to resume all scheduled activities, including outside playtime, should be kept at home.
- Children returning from a surgical procedure must have a letter from doctor stating that they may return to school.

NOTE: To be sure that your child is no longer ill, provide your child extra time to recover, please keep your child home an extra 24 hours free of symptoms before returning him/ her to The Rich Center for Autism. If your child has had a contagious illness, unusual rash, etc. requiring the doctor's attention, please bring a statement from the doctor stating that your child is no longer contagious and can be in a day care with other children.

You and your child must see the Nurse before your child is permitted to resume classes. Employees of The Rich Center for Autism follow the same health policy as the children.

Napping and Resting

In order to benefit fully from the planned programming, participation by students is necessary. There are no scheduled nap periods. However, in the event a child seems overly tired, a brief (up to 30 minute) nap will be permitted on a cot or mat in a secluded area of the classroom.

Guidelines for the Administration of Medication

Medication will be administered by The Rich Center for Autism under the following State Regulations:

- Instructions from a Licensed Physician or Licensed Dentist as well as **signed and dated** instructions from the parent or guardian must be written on the ODJFS Parent/Guardian request for Administration of Medication form provided to you by the nurse.
- If taking medication, the parent will supply the medication in its original container with its original label attached. Dosages administered by The Rich Center for Autism shall not exceed the doctor's recommended dosages. Employees of The Rich Center for Autism will not administer food supplements, such as vitamins and fluoride supplements.

Medications will be kept locked in the nursing office. Emergency medications, such as Epi-Pens or inhalers will be kept with a classroom teacher as needed.

Modified diets which eliminate the use of any one or more of the four food groups or altering the amount of food required to be served to meet one third of the recommended daily allowances will be honored by The Rich Center for Autism, however an **Administration of Medication form and/or Care Plan must be completed**. Signed and dated instructions from a Licensed Physician or Licensed Dentist are needed for the administration of over the counter medication such as, Tylenol, Neosporin, hand sanitizer and sunscreen, food supplements such as Ensure, Boost or Pedi sure.

Accidents / Emergencies

The Rich Center for Autism has devised several procedures to follow in the event that an emergency would occur while a child is in The Rich Center for Autism's care. In the event of a fire, or tornado, staff will follow the written instructions posted in each classroom, describing emergency evacuation routes, and the procedures to be followed to assure that children have arrived at the designated area. In order to prepare children for the unlikely need to evacuate, The Rich Center for Autism conducts monthly fire drills, and periodic tornado drills. Should we need to evacuate due to fire or weather conditions, or the loss of power, heat, or water to the Center, our emergency destination is in the gymnasium of Beeghly Center behind our building. A sign will be posted on the front door of The Rich Center for Autism indicating that we have been evacuated and the location where you can pick up your child. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible to pick up your child. If a parent cannot be reached, we will contact the emergency contacts as listed on your child's enrollment information. **Parents are responsible for reporting address, home phone, cell phone and contact changes. If updated contact information is not provided, students will not be admitted to school.**

There is always one staff member/school nurse present that has received training in First Aid, Communicable Diseases and CPR. In the case of a minor accident/ injury, staff will administer basic first aid and tender loving care. If the injury should be more serious, first aid will be administered, and the parents will be contacted immediately to assist in deciding an appropriate course of action. If any injury is life threatening, the EMS will be contacted, parents will be

notified, and a staff member will accompany the child to the hospital with all available health records. Staff may not transport children in their vehicles. Only parents or EMS will transport.

In the instance where parents have not given permission for emergency transport a decision will be made based on the severity of the injury. If it is in the child's best interest to be transported to a local healthcare facility, parents will be contacted immediately and information will be given regarding the transport. Prior to any incident, staff will have detailed discussions and provide education to parents who decline emergency transport. Education and information will revolve around their child and meeting their needs as it is related to injuries that may require transport. If the parents are still insistent on declining emergency transport, we will refer the parents to the above policy.

An incident/injury report will be completed, and given to the person picking up the child, on the day of the incident/injury, if any of the following occur; the child has an illness, accident, or injury which requires first aid; the child receives a bump or blow to the head; the child has to be transported by emergency squad; or an unusual or unexpected event occurs which jeopardizes the safety of the child. If a child requires emergency transportation, the report shall be available within twenty-four hours after incident occurs.

Safety Policy

A childcare staff member in charge of a child or group of children shall be responsible for their safety.

- At no time will a child be unattended. Staff will supervise children at all times, including if the child needs a nap. Children will be in sight and hearing of a staff member.
- A fire drill will be held monthly. The drill will be held at varying times each month and recorded each month.
- In case of fire and/or weather alerts the staff will prepare to evacuate the children outdoors or to the nearest fallout shelter or tornado shelter.
- A First Aid Kit is located in each classroom.
- A person trained in first aid will be on the premises at all times.
- Employees will also accompany any trip taken off the school grounds.
- A First Aid Kit will be available on all trips
- Each child on the trip will have identification attached to himself/ herself containing the child's first name and The Rich Center for Autism's name, address, and telephone number.
- No child will be released from The Rich Center to anyone other than a parent unless we have written notification or verbal authorization at the time of arrival or dismissal. (Person must have proper identification.)
- In accordance with Rule 5101:2-12-32; A child care staff member shall immediately notify the Local Public Children Services Agency when the child care staff members suspect that a child has been abused or neglected.
- No aerosol spray is to be used in The Rich Center for Autism while children are present.
- There is a telephone available in the office, and cell phones will be available in each classroom.
- The emergency policy is posted in each classroom.
- If an accident occurs to a child, the parent, guardian, or emergency person will be notified immediately. If neither can be reached, The Rich Center for Autism will use the medical emergency authorization to take the child for treatment. Minor injuries will be treated with ice, area will be washed thoroughly with soap and water, and a band-aid applied if needed. The parent will be notified by a note or phone call. An incident report will be completed and must be signed by parent or guardian and nurse, Associate Director or Director and a copy given to the parent or guardian.
- Rosters of the names and telephone numbers of the parents or guardians of children attending The Rich Center for Autism are available upon request. The roster will not include the name or telephone number of any parent who requests that his/ her name or telephone number not be included.

DAILY SCHEDULES

The children's daily schedule is flexible enough to provide adaptability when necessary but structured enough to provide predictability for the children. The Rich Center for Autism Center's day may include the following:

Student Hours & Sample Daily Schedule:

9:00a-9:30a Morning Meeting
9:30a-9:45a Social Studies
9 :45a-10:00a Snack
10:00a-10:30a Language Arts
10:30a-11:00a Adaptive Physical Education
11:00a-11:30a Individual Worktime
11:30a-12:00p Lunch
12:00p-12:30p Math
12:30p-1:00p Movement, Playground
1:00p-1:30p Science
1:30p-2:00p Specials (art, music, play, sensory, cooking)
2:00p-2:30p Social Skills

State Required Ratios

1 :5 or 2 :12	Infants (0-12 months)
1 :6 or 2 :12	Infants (12-18 months)
1 :7	Toddlers (18-30 months)
1 :8	Toddlers (30-36 months)
1 :12	Preschoolers (3-4 years)
1 :14	Preschoolers (4 yrs. until eligible for kindergarten)
1 :18	School-agers (eligible for school)

Maximum Group Size

Maximum group size is defined by the number of children in one group that may be care for at any time. Limitations do not include lunch time, outdoor play or special activities.

16	2 ½- 3-year-old
24	3-year-old
28	4-5-year-old
36	School age children

Daily average attendance at license capacity of each category of The Rich Center for Autism is met.



Hours of Operation

Employee Hours		Student Hours	
Monday	8:00 – 4:00	Monday	9:00 – 2:30
Tuesday	8:00 – 4:00	Tuesday	9:00 – 2:30
Wednesday	8:00 – 4:00	Wednesday	9:00 – 2:30
Thursday	8:00 – 4:00	Thursday	9:00 – 2:30
Friday	8:00 – 3:00	Friday	Remote instruction

Contact Information

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Gregory Boerio	Interim Executive Director Associate Director Academics & Outreach	(330) 941-4668	gyboerio@ysu.edu
Mary Pat Defino	Center Operations Coordinator	(330) 941-1927	mpdefino@ysu.edu
Rachael Dobson	Associate Director of Behavior	(330) 941-2208	rndobson@ysu.edu
Michael Latessa	Associate Director of Development	(330) 941-4668	mjlatessa@ysu.edu
Erika Campolito	Supervisor; High School Depart. & St Charles	(330) 941-2437	emcampolito@ysu.edu
Brendan Considine	Supervisor; Intermediate & Middle School Departments	(330) 941-2108	brconsidine@ysu.edu
Tia May	Supervisor; Primary & Early Childhood Departments	(330) 941-2439	tsjohnson@ysu.edu
Beth Reed	Assistant Operations Coordinator	(330) 941-1996	eareed@ysu.edu
Ashley Smith	Nurse	(330) 941-2315	ammilligan@ysu.edu

Center Parent Information

Required by Ohio Administrative Code

The center is licensed to operate legally by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. This license is posted in a noticeable place for review.

A toll-free telephone number is listed on the center's license and may be used to report a suspected violation of the licensing law or administrative rules. The licensing rules governing child care are available for review at the center.

The administrator and each employee of the center is required, under Section 2151.421 of the Ohio Revised Code, to report their suspicions of child abuse or child neglect to the local public children's services agency.

Any parent of a child enrolled in the center shall be permitted unlimited access to the center during all hours of operation for the purpose of contacting their children, evaluating the care provided by the center or evaluating the premises. Upon entering the premises, the parent, or guardian shall notify the Administrator of his/her presence.

The administrator's hours of availability and child/staff ratios are posted in a noticeable place in the center for review.

The licensing record, including licensing inspection reports, complaint investigation reports, and evaluation forms from the building and fire departments, is available for review upon written request from the Ohio department of job and family services.

It is unlawful for the center to discriminate in the enrollment of children upon the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin or disability in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 104 Stat. 32, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

For more information about child care licensing requirements as well as how to apply for child care assistance, Medicaid health screenings and early intervention services for your child, please visit <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/families.stm>

Appendix C Revised 12/6/16



As a Rich Center Parent, I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the copy of The Rich Center for Autism Parent Handbook. By signing below, I understand and agree to abide by the Rich Center for Autism Parent Handbook policies and procedures for the 2019-20 school year.

Print Name

Signature

Date

(check box to share information)

For opting into Center-wide roster

For opting into classroom roster

Contact information:

Address: _____

Email: _____

Cell phone: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO OFFICE