

Kudos to PEAK for a wonderful community event

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On Sunday afternoon, April 11, Pottstown Early Action for Kindergarten Readiness (PEAK) held a wonderful community event at the YMCA of Pottstown. I would like to commend the Pottstown School District, the PEAK partners, and the PEAK management team for a great afternoon. For those who were unable to be in attendance, it was a great opportunity to learn how early learning impacts our children and ultimately, our community — while still providing fun for the kids.

Early learning is a very important component to the redevelopment of Pottstown. The TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce believes that every child has the opportunity to become a productive citizen. The chamber through its board of directors strongly supports the district's and the state's initiative to bring affordable and accountable early learning programs to the community.

Having children in safe and quality learning centers has an immediate impact for local businesses; it provides a security for our working families to know that their children are safe. Long term investment by business provides stability for a community in workforce development issues. From the ages 0-5, as children, we learn to read and for the remainder of our lives we read to learn. Every child who misses one of these key milestones in their development pattern falls behind. Early learning can impact this and help reduce the number of children that need assistance. Another critical skill that the children learn through interactive play in the quality learning centers is conflict resolution. Both of these skills are extremely important for anyone in the workplace.

April is designated as the month of the young child. The TriCounty Chamber of Commerce encourages business leaders and the community to learn more about the opportunities that the Pottstown School District has for early learning through the PEAK program. Log on to www.peakonline.org or contact Mary Rieck at 610-970-6655.

Making a difference in our young children will make a difference for our community. Thank you PEAK and the PEAK Partners for a wonderful event.

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Member of the PA Commission for Early Learning Investment