



Ginger Calvario

Support Staff Spotlight

NAME: Ginger Calvario

POSITION: Head Secretary

School: Head Start/ECEAP Preschool

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 10 years

Q. What are some of the different tasks you do for the preschool program?

A. I am involved in purchasing supplies and equipment for the program, as well as enrolling families. I also provide teacher and staff support for trainings and professional development.

Q. How does working with the federal government impact your role as head secretary?

A. We are required to adhere to Head Start performance standards, as well as the federal Head Start Act and the ECEAP performance standards. We also have to adhere to the laws and regulations in place for public schools.

It keeps our whole staff focused every day to make sure we are meeting those high standards. We are very organized to not only do the work but to also document that we are doing the work. The Head Start compliance review process involves a team of five or six reviewers. They look at every aspect of our preschool program. We have to be able to show our paper trail to demonstrate we are meeting these standards.

Q. What are the staffing and enrollment numbers in preschool?

A. We have about 35 Head Start/ECEAP staff members who work at Blue Ridge or Green Park. At Blue Ridge, we also have 10 special education staff that provide specialized services. We serve 217 students. Our program also provides ongoing family support. Our family advocate group goes to homes of children every month. They help young families make goals for the future. I remember this was part of my process as a parent when my daughter was in the program. It helps parents think about where they are going financially, professionally, and as a family to be stronger for the future.

Over

NOTES:
There are many vulnerable children and families in our community. We provide the support that those young children and families need to be ready for kindergarten and be successful in school the rest of their lives.



Highlights Ginger Calvario

I grew up in northern Idaho and graduated from Lewiston High School. We have five children.



We had a call from a father whose daughter had been in our program 30 years ago. He is so thankful. We contributed to her success and life-long love for learning.



Music is our passion. We have a family band.