Hosting Your Legislator, A “Lesson Plan” for ECFE

- Call the office of the legislator(s) who represents your program.
- Ask them to visit, ideally during class time.
- Do some research. What committees does the legislator serve on? How does that work impact early learning? What are the legislators interests? What do you have in common?
- Assign a greeter, someone who can welcome them at the door and “shadow” them during the visit to answer questions and explain what we do.
- Do your best to make sure that the legislator sits in on a full session of ECFE. Give your class a heads up about the visit. Highlight parent education, often this is a new lens and new learning for legislators.
- Take pics, lots of pics! Commit to tweet and post on a variety of social media using #ECFEOpenHouse as a hashtag.
- Try not to overload the visitor. Commit to follow up after the class to discuss the day and get a verbal commitment from the legislator.
- Thank them for coming! Ask for their continued support of parent and family education in our state.
- Make a take home packet from your program. You may want to include the ECFE information brochure, a CE catalog, a letter or two of testimony from parents, a list of staff members and their contact information, art from a child in your program, etc.
- Ask a parent and a staff member to follow up with the legislator in person, or over the phone in the coming weeks.

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