

# Mount Olive child care center gets 'Golden Acorn Award'

- Jan 20, 2017

Picture Deleted by PA

Gail Reuther, secretary the Preschool Advantage Board of Trustees and co-chair of the School Committee, presented the Golden Acorn Award for exemplary quality in preschool education to Mt. Olive Child Care & Learning Center in Budd Lake.

**MOUNT OLIVE TWP.** – Preschool Advantage awarded its “Golden Acorn Award” for exemplary quality in preschool education to Mt. Olive Child Care & Learning Center in Budd Lake.

Gail Reuther, secretary of the Preschool Advantage Board of Trustees and co-chair of the School Committee, presented the award.

“Preschool Advantage congratulates Mt. Olive Child Care & Learning Center on providing exceptional early education since 1976,” said a statement on Jan. 12. “Preschool Advantage has long recognized the quality of early education at Mt. Olive Child Care & Learning Center. This year the Preschool Advantage School Committee wanted to formally define quality preschool with the Golden Acorn Award.”

The Golden Acorn Award is based on five points of quality in preschool education including teacher and child interaction, curriculum, family involvement, staff qualifications and professional development and management of the school.

The School Committee, comprises current and former preschool directors and teachers, visits Preschool Advantage partner schools on a three-year cycle to ensure quality is maintained. A checklist has been developed using National Association of the Education of Young Children guidelines, the Grow NJ Kids program and the experience of the Preschool Advantage committee, the statement said.

Preschool Advantage is accepting applications for scholarships to its partner preschools for the school year beginning in September. Area families can apply to Preschool Advantage for funding for a half-day of preschool for 3 or 4 year-old children.

Children must be 3 or 4 by Oct. 1, to be considered for funding for the school year beginning in September. The deadline for applications is Feb. 28. Families demonstrating commitment to education and financial need can access the application at [preschooladvantage.org](http://preschooladvantage.org), or by calling (973) 532-2501.

Preschool Advantage is a non-profit organization that partners with 18 schools in 13 towns to fund preschool for children whose families cannot afford it. To learn more, visit [www.preschooladvantage.org](http://www.preschooladvantage.org).