

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

THE ENQUIRER

Last Updated: 8:00 am | Friday, August 3, 2007

Little Red hosts grand opening for new facility

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

Edgewood declared Wednesday Little Red School House Day at the grand opening of the school's new 11,000-square-foot facility.

The new school replaced the St. Elizabeth-managed Toddler Inn.

"We are getting out of being in the management and owning of a day-care center and preschool," said Mark Riedinger, St. Elizabeth's vice president of business development. "Our specialty is taking care of patients, and we thought we should look to someone whose specialty is running preschools."

Approximately 200 people, including officials from Edgewood and Kenton County, the Chamber of Commerce, parents and Little Red School House owners Jan and Chip Malley, attended the grand opening Wednesday night

"It was a terrific success," Chip Malley said after the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "The city's proclamation naming the day for the school was a real honor. It was a grand night."

The new school serves infants to kindergartners. It has 13 classrooms with 9-foot ceilings, a computer lab, cafeteria and kitchen.

Tuesday was 3-year-old Charlie Casey's first day at Little Red School House. He had attended the Toddler Inn since he was an infant.

"There's a lot of anxiety with them closing the Toddler Inn," said Charlie's mother, Peggy Casey of Edgewood. "There was a lot of anxiety with a lot of the parents and teachers. Little Red School House and St. E did well with handling the transition. It was great because the school made sure the same teacher Charlie had at Toddler Inn was going to be his teacher still. It made for a nice transition for him."

The meetings Little Red School House had with parents relieved some of Casey's anxiety.

"They talked about their curriculum and their structure," she said. "Knowing that the curriculum was going to be structured - that's what sold me on it."

Casey knew she found the right place when she picked up Charlie the first day.

"You know your child is in good hands when you show up at the school at 5 o'clock in the afternoon and your child is sitting on his teacher's lap," she said. "You know he's happy, and it makes it a lot easier."

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#) | Copyright 2007, *Enquirer.com*