### Father Engagement Matters!

There are long-term benefits for children when their fathers are engaged parents. Analysis of more than 100 studies on parent-child relationships found that “having a loving and nurturing father was as important for a child’s happiness, well-being, and social and academic success as having a loving and nurturing mother” (Dept. of Health & Human Services).

For example, in a study mentioned in the same report, a father’s presence in the family promoted significant cognitive outcomes. In the study, toddlers with involved fathers were more secure and more likely to explore the world with enthusiasm and a positive outlook. This contributes to a lifelong inclination toward independence and self-sufficiency.

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**Head Start Advocacy Day — State House Boston!**

**Wednesday February 12, 2020 — Details coming soon**
Accurate Information is Critical!

Pick up and drop off of your child, whether it's at school or at the bus stop may be a chaotic time for everyone. A smooth transition process is critical. The procedures below MUST BE followed in accordance with our regulations and for your child's well-being:

- When dropping off or picking up your child to their classroom or bus, it's very important for families to always make sure they are writing their full name, not just 'mom, dad, etc…' in the classroom or passenger log book.
- In addition to your signature, the actual time of picking up/dropping off your child is just as important. Each classroom has a digital clock attached to or near the attendance log book for you to use. Buses are equipped with a clock on the passenger clipboard.
- Teachers/Transportation staff must maintain an accurate count of the children in their care at all times. Adults picking up children/their child must wait until the teacher/trans. staff have acknowledged they are releasing your child to you and the proper forms have been correctly filled out. This may involve families having to wait a few extra minutes for the transition of your child to properly occur (i.e., hallway to classroom or playground to classroom).
- Taking your child during a transition time is NOT ALLOWED for example, when a classroom is lined up in a hallway or moving from the playground to classroom, etc...

We appreciate everyone's cooperation and following of this very important procedure. If you have any questions or are having trouble understanding this process, please speak to your Family Engagement Specialist. The safety and well-being of our children will always be our number one priority. Thank you.

Community Giving

Happy 2020 to everyone! Triumph, Inc. would like to recognize the following organizations and community partners for their generous holiday donations and support to our families:

- Bloom Bus
- Citizens for Citizens (CFC)
- Coyle & Cassidy High School
- Greater Taunton Charitable Foundation
- Jordan’s Furniture
- Liberty Christian Center
- Martignetti
- Morton Hospital
- Personal Best Karate
- Quality Beverage
- Taunton Rotary Club
- Triumph, Inc. Staff

A special thank you goes out to our Family Engagement Specialists for making sure families received these donations in a timely manner.

Health & Safety

As a reminder, winter weather has arrived! Unless it's raining or snowing and as long as the temperature is above 32 degrees, our children go outside to enjoy the fresh air. Dress your child in warm clothing and/or layers for school. Remember to send them to school with a hat, mittens/gloves and coat. It's important to check your child's 'cubbies' in their classrooms to make sure an extra set of clothing is there in case it's needed. An extra set of socks and underwear are always good to have at school! Children benefit from fresh outdoor air that has fewer germs than indoor air.

Dear Grandparent Raising a Grandchild...

I want you to know I see you.

I see you running your grandchild to therapy when your friends are running to their nail salon appointment.

I see you dropping off your grandchild at school and attending yet another IEP meeting while your friends are having coffee.

I see you slipping out of conversations when your friends are chiming in about golfing, traveling and visiting their grandchildren.

I see you juggling appointments and meetings, always making sure you do the best for your grandchild.

I see you sitting at your computer for hours researching what your grandchild needs.

I see you at the end of the day, thoroughly spent and exhausted.

I see you rocking a baby, chasing a toddler, reading to a first grader, learning new math with a 10 year old, trying to understand new lingo with your 8th grader, fearfully teaching a 16 year old how to drive and preparing college forms with your senior. I see you.

I see you spread thin, but still going the extra mile for your grandchild, and managing to do it with a smile.

I see you rubbing out the arthritis pain and trying to keep up with a slight limp in your gait.

I see you feeling invisible, like nobody notices any of it, but I want you to know I notice you. I see you in the trenches, relentlessly pushing forward. I see you worry about failing this child. I see you grieving your own child. I see you quietly blaming yourself for their failures and choices.

I know you feel invisible, like nobody notices any of it, but I want you to know I notice you. I see you in the trenches, relentlessly pushing forward. I see you worry about failing this child. I see you grieving your own child. I see you quietly blaming yourself for their failures and choices.

I want you to know I see you. I want you to know you are beautiful. I want you to know you’re not alone. There are thousands of us, silently doing what we know is best. I want you to know that matters most is love. Your love.

And on those days when you see your grandchild smile, when you hear their laughter, watch them succeed in life—know it was all worth it. I will see you then too and I want you to know I am proud of you.

Author Unknown