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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Hershel Lyons

DATE: August 31, 2018

SUBJECT: 2018 Dads Take Your Child to School Day

Contact Information:

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DPS: 2018-125

Dads Take Your Child to School Day will be observed in Florida on Wednesday, September 26, 2018. We are pleased to share that statewide participation in Dads Take Your Child to School Day has increased significantly over the last three years. This increase is the result of the dedication of many school and district staff who have worked collaboratively with various community and faith organizations. We urge you to continue efforts to collaborate with partners in support of children who need positive male role models.

When working with families, it is important to provide opportunities that build their capacity to become effective school partners. Opportunities must provide them with information about student learning goals, foster respectful relationships between home and school, create collaborative learning environments and offer the chance to test new skills and knowledge.¹ As you prepare for Dads Take Your Child to School Day, the department encourages you to identify and share opportunities for fathers and father figures to continue support beyond the event.

A [toolkit](#) is now available to include samples and resources to spark ideas for meaningful engagement. Please be sure to capture your event photos by using our hashtag, #FLDADSATSCHOOL18.

This year, I personally look forward to visiting the elementary school with the highest percentage of participation of fathers and male role models. The department will work closely with district volunteer coordinators to collect information from schools and to provide an opportunity for feedback following the event.

For more information, please contact Bonita Hampton at 850-245-0842 or Bonita.Hampton@fldoe.org.

HL/bh

¹ Mapp, K. L., & Kuttner, P. J. (2013). *Partners in Education: A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, SEDL. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/documents/familycommunity/partners-education.pdf>.

HERSHEL LYONS

CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS