FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION fldoe.org

State Board of Education

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September 18, 2019

Richard Corcoran Commissioner of Education

Dear AGENCY HEADS:

The Florida Department of Education will observe Dads Take Your Child to School Day on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. We appreciate the continued support of state and local agencies in this initiative, which serves to highlight and support fatherhood engagement in education by helping schools foster this important connection with fathers and father figures.

Research suggests that engaging dads, brothers, uncles, male role models and male mentors increases student success, i.e., students performance better academically, have fewer discipline problems and become more responsible adults. Dads Take Your Child to School Day is an excellent opportunity to shine a spotlight on fathers and father figures by encouraging them to participate and stay involved throughout the school year.

I urge you to support the men within your agency by encouraging them to participate in taking their child to school on September 25, 2019. As a reminder, the <u>Florida Department of Management Services</u> allows for administrative leave with pay for up to one hour per month for an employee to participate in his/her child's activities including mentoring a local schools and child care centers.

Please help us spread the word by sharing the attached flyer and displaying the <u>public service</u> <u>announcement</u> on your social media outlets. Additional participation and support can be captured by using our hashtag, #FLDADSATSCHOOL.

Thank you for your continued assistance and support of Florida's students, families and communities. For additional information, please contact Angelia Rivers, chief, bureau of family and community outreach, at Angelia.Rivers@fldoe.org or 850-245-0853.

Sincerely.

Richard Corcoran

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