Welcome back to school!

We're excited to welcome all early educators back to school! We're launching this monthly newsletter, to streamline department communications, connect educators, and share great ideas!

Each month will feature the following elements:

- Upcoming dates and deadlines
- Resources and research links
- Ideas from colleagues in the field
- Ways to engage families
- GOLD tips and tricks
- Self-Care and Mindfulness
**Dates & Deadlines**

- **August 15 or 17**: ECE teachers and paraprofessionals complete licensing requirements (in school)
- **August 21**: First day of school! (for most)
- **September 4**: Labor Day
- **September 5**: All ECE teachers and paras in full-day learning sessions (non-student contact day)

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**Resources & Research**

If you haven't yet, be sure to follow the DPS Early Education Facebook Page! We share pertinent resource links, research-based articles, and examples of the amazing early childhood education happening in our district!

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**From the field...**

We welcomed 70+ new ECE and Kindergarten teachers to the district, during New Educator Welcome Week! The new teachers bring diverse experiences and so much much enthusiasm to the work. We're glad to have each of you in Denver Public Schools!
Family Focus

How are you planning to get to know new families next week?

What do you need to do before the first day of school, so that you can be calm and welcoming during your first connections with families?

How do you connect with people best?

GOLD Tips & Tricks

All ECE classrooms will be moving to the MyTeachingStrategies platform this month. The new platform provides a single entry point for all of Teaching Strategies’ classroom tools/solutions.

ECE teachers and paraprofessionals will have their iPads updated, receive new Gold manuals, and learn more about MyTeachingStrategies, at the Sept. 5 training!

Self-Care and Mindfulness

From Sandra Alexander:

*It is proven that when we visualize something, we have the same body responses as when we experience that same thing in the physical. For example, when we have a nightmare, we wake with adrenalin flowing, our body reacting just as if the dream wasn’t a dream at all. We can use this visualization concept in reverse.*

*Try it. Close your eyes and visualize a 30 second vacation at the beach, or a 30 second connection with a loved one, even when we are at a distance.*

*Of course, this does not replace a physical connection completely, or a tropical vacation, but taking this 30 seconds when a longer time investment is not immediately available can rejuvenate us and help the children in our care feel more loved and connected.*