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Dear Florida's Parents,

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, I want to thank Florida's homeschool and private school families for the dedication you show every day to your children's education. Your decision to choose the educational path that best fits your family's needs reflects the important role parents play in shaping both academic success and character development.

Winter break offers a welcome opportunity for rest and time together as a family. It also provides a chance to reflect on learning goals and reinforce key skills. Whether through reading together, practicing math, setting expectations for the new year, or having meaningful conversations about responsibility and resilience, families remain the first and most influential teachers in a child's life.

The importance of family-led education and thoughtful choice has long been recognized. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "*Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.*" This wisdom reflects the freedom and responsibility parents have to guide their children's education in a way that aligns with their values, beliefs, and aspirations for the future. As the second half of the school year begins, I encourage you to continue building on the strong foundation you have established. Your leadership, planning, and daily engagement support not only academic growth but also independence, character, and lifelong learning.

To further support families, the Florida Department of Education offers parent resources in Mathematics, English Language Arts, and Resiliency. These resources outline grade-level expectations, define key concepts, and provide practical activities families can use to support learning at home. All resources are aligned to Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards and are available at:

- <https://flmath4all.org/Home/Index>
- <https://www.fl DOE.org/academics/standards/subject-areas/math-science/mathematics/parent-resources.shtml>
- <https://www.fl DOE.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/parent-guides-for-english-language-arts.shtml>
- <https://www.buildresiliency.org/parentresources>

Thank you for your continued commitment to your children's education and for exercising the freedom to choose the learning environments that work best for your family. I am grateful for your partnership and confident that, together, we will help students across Florida finish the year strong.

I wish you all good tidings of comfort and joy this holiday season, and I look forward to another successful semester in the new year.

Blessings,

Anastasios Kamoutsas