COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

As requested, here are the dates and times for two of the new Quincy Public Schools Open Houses.

• Iles—3111 N. 12th Street, Quincy, IL 62305 August 4, 2018 at 10:30AM

Rooney–4900 Columbus Road Quincy, IL 62305

August 11, 2018 at 10:30AM

In accordance with our United Way grant objectives, and the expectations from the Court, having a school component in your CASA court reports is a requirement. School starts later this month, which is hard to believe, so it's time to know which school your kids will be attending and the teachers they will be

assigned. Please reach out to the CASA staff if you need any assistance in obtaining this critical information.

Mark Your Calendar!

September's Noon-Networking on the 13th will feature Erica Marshall and Tabitha Evans.

They will be at our office to discuss the parenting program through Hobby Horse.

Many of our parents have to attend this service via their service plan. You won't want to miss this!

We look forward to seeing you!!

There has been an unforeseen influx of cases. At this time Danielle is asking all volunteers to consider taking one additional case.

Happy August Birthdays!

Teresa Kuchling - 3rd

Dale Runyon - 18th

Vicki Laack - 18th

"Every child deserves a champion— An adult who will never give up on them. Who understand the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be."- Rita Pierson

Back-to-School Tips for Parents and Foster Parents

Since a lot of our kiddos are moving schools this year, here are some tips you can share with the families!

Meet the new teacher.

For kids, one of the biggest back-to-school fears is "Will I like my new teacher?" Breaking the ice early on is one of the best ways to calm everyone's fears. Take advantage of the school's open house or back-to-school night. Some teachers welcome phone calls or e-mails — another great opportunity to get to know each other before the year begins. If personal contact with the teacher isn't possible, try locating the teacher's picture on a school website or in a yearbook, so the child can put a name with a face.

Tour the school.

If the school hosts an open house, be sure to go. Familiarizing the child with their environment will help avoid a nervous stomach on the first day. With an older child, parents can ask them to give a tour of the school. This will help refresh his memory.

Connect with friends.

A familiar friend can make all the difference when heading back to school. Parents might try calling other parents from last year's class and finding out which children are in class together this year. Refresh these relationships before school starts by scheduling a play date or a school carpool.

Tool up.

Obtain the class supply list and take a special shopping trip. Having the right tools will help them feel prepared. While keeping basic needs in mind, allow for a couple of splurges like a cool notebook or a favorite-colored pen. These simple pleasures make going back to school a lot more fun.

Avoid last-minute drilling.

When it's almost time to stop playing, give a five-minute warning. Giving clear messages to children is very important.

Chat about today's events and tomorrow's plans.

While it is important to support learning throughout the summer, don't spend the last weeks of summer vacation reviewing last year's curriculum. All kids need some down time before the rigors of school begin. For some kids, last-minute drills can heighten anxiety, reminding them of what they've forgotten instead of what they remember.

Ease into the routine.

Switching from a summer to a school schedule can be stressful to everyone in the household. Avoid first-day-of-school mayhem by practicing your routine a few days in advance. Set the alarm clock, go through morning rituals, and get in the car or to the bus stop on time. Routines help children feel comfortable, and establishing a solid school routine will make the first day of school go much smoother.