

Annual Letter to your Pre-K through 2nd Grade Student

Family History Stories & Goals for your Student

Each parent, grandparent, and other close relative is invited to write a letter, and then read and discuss it with the Pre-K through 2nd Grade student they support.

First: Write a “Goals and Roots Letter” to your child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece, or nephew. Write about your goals and dreams for them. Knowing your goals and dreams for them is a first step in helping your student to build and/or update their own life goals. You then increase the value of your letter by including a story from your own history, your roots. Such family history is especially valuable if the story you share reflects the values of your family, values you hope your student will use to guide their own life.

Second: Schedule time with your student, or their parents, to bring the letter to them so you can read the letter to your student. (Keep a copy of the letter for yourself. Distance may require the letter to be mailed. The meeting can then be a phone or Zoom call.) The meeting goal is to allow you and your student to discuss any questions they may have about your letter. Such discussions can be priceless! They will improve your student’s self-image. It will help them become better students. **Such an annual meeting could become valuable time for both of you.**

Through this annual exercise your student will begin to better understand the power of writing and reading. This helps your student to be performing at or above their grade level in writing and reading by the 3rd grade when they themselves begin writing letters to you to request your annual letter. Each year these Pre-K through 2nd grade letters go into an envelope self-addressed by a parent and sent to school for storage until the next year’s letter writing. Envelopes are always returned home in 10 months so letters can be read again by the letter writers to the student to prepare for that year’s letter writing.

This exercise will introduce your student to their family history. A growing knowledge of family history strengthens student self-confidence. The building of realistic life goals is increased with an understanding of what family members before them have experienced.

These annual letters are the start of the **StudentMotivation.org Project**, a Pk-12, volunteer-driven Project your student’s schools are using to help raise student achievement levels. Imagine the power of the 14 annual envelopes of such letters students collect as they go from Pre-K through 12th grade! **Student life goals evolve more realistically as students think more often about life with their extended family.**

The 12th grade letters will specifically focus on goals 10 years into the future. They remain in the school’s Time Capsule Vault until your student’s 10-year high school class reunion. **It will be a big reunion! Imagine the wonderful changes your letters will reflect, and that you will witness, over these 14 years.**

2/15/25