



## Monthly Newsletter

August 2015—Back to School Edition

### Introducing the IDSC Newsletter

We are excited to launch our monthly IDSC Newsletter. Each month we will feature articles and information pertinent to our families. If you would like to see a topic covered in our newsletter or have an article of interest to our subscribers, please email us at [info@theidsc.org](mailto:info@theidsc.org).

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### Are you ready for the new school year?

### Introducing Your Student to Teachers and Staff

The following document was created to help introduce your child to the staff at their school. Feel free to personalize the document to fit your child. Click here to download the [Student Introduction](#) document.

If you wish to use a more detailed document, we recommend the one created by the Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City (KCDSG). Their document is available at [KCDSG All About Me](#).

This month's newsletter is sponsored by



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### Planning a Vacation for a Child with Special Needs

For families planning those end-of-summer trips, here are a few tips to assist in making the vacation easier for your child with special needs.

[Read more...](#)

## Back to School Tips for Kids with Special Needs

It may feel like mid summer but schools are revving up for a new school year. Whereas summer may mean a more relaxed schedule, time to explore different interests and meet new friends; school brings more structure, routine and a steady pace. If you haven't already, you will soon be receiving school supply lists and other important information from your child's school. Now is the time to prepare. An "ounce" of preparation can go far!

[Read More...](#)

## Preparing Your Child with Special Needs for Middle School

These are ten steps that can help make any school-to-school transition less painful for students with special needs.

[Read more...](#)

## Don't Underestimate Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities cannot prepare for the adult world when they are not given the chance to fully engage with the world as children. The least dangerous assumption is to teach all students well with the expectation that learning is occurring. Students deserve no less.

[Read more...](#)

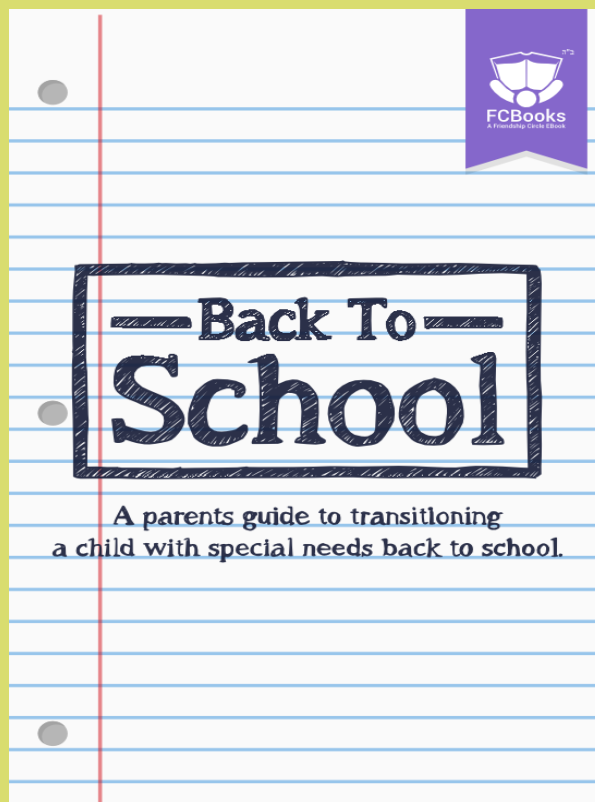
## Educational Support for Parents and Families

The following Facebook groups are available for families.

[Inclusion for Children with Down Syndrome\\*](#)

[Down Syndrome and Homeschooling Moms Group\\*](#)

\*These groups are not affiliated with the IDSC, but may be useful tools for families.



# Where Hope Grows DVD

Available August 25, 2015

There is great news for [Where Hope Grows](#) fans as well as those that did not have an opportunity to watch the movie at their local theater due to its limited release. The DVD is available starting on August 25 and you can pre-order yours today! Visit the [Where Hope Grows](#) website to pre-order a copy.

The IDSC had an opportunity to preview the movie before its release and we shared our review on [Huffington Post](#). Read our review to hear what some of our staff had to say about Where Hope Grows.



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## Adoption Grant Program

In September 2014, we began offering adoption grants to families adopting children with Down syndrome within the United States. To date, 15 families have received an IDSC adoption grant. To learn more about the Adoption Grant Program, donate to the program or read the families' stories please visit our [website](#).



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