

*the*

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# Parent Connection

*You are your child's first teacher*

## Director's Note

Research shows that toddlers with a positive attachment to their fathers become better problem solvers, show more self-control, and earn higher cognitive development scores.

That is why the Los Angeles County Office of Education promotes male engagement with children all year long with workshops, seminars, and special events such as October 4's "Be a Hero, Take Your Child to Preschool Day."

In a busy world, it's important to remind ourselves that dads, uncles, grandfathers, godfathers, brothers, and other male role models can make a significant difference in the lives of our children, pointing them toward success in school.

## Pedestrian Safety Tips

Getting ready to walk to school? Hold your child's hand, use traffic signals and crosswalks, stay alert, and remember—the streets are a cell free zone.



## A Head Start on Vaccination

Car seats and baby gates keep children safe from visible dangers—immunizations keep children safe from invisible dangers. That's why LACOE Head Start and the state of California require all children to be immunized.

**Vaccinations are safe and affordable.** Vaccines may cause a little pain, but nothing compared to the painful diseases vaccines prevent. Many vaccines are free under the Affordable Care Act or the Vaccines for Children program. Call 877-243-8832 for more information, or talk to your health care provider.

**Protecting your family also protects future generations.** Vaccines protect against more diseases than ever before. Protect your loved ones by making sure everyone in your household is fully vaccinated, including you, and help prevent diseases from harming future generations. For more information, visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov)



*"My daddy is a giant, and when I grow up, I'm going to be a giant too."*

*– Carl Norac*

## Guy's Corner

After completing LACOE's Family Development Credential course, which emphasizes family self-reliance and community partnerships, Community Representative Hector Bañuelos reflected on his experience.

"I have never accomplished much in education," acknowledged Bañuelos, "but I now know the value firsthand, thanks to the opportunity that LACOE Head Start has given me to understand it and to embrace it."

Bañuelos demonstrates the courage, vision, and persistence at the heart of education. "I can accomplish more," he concluded. "Who would have known that when I enrolled my son Austin in Head Start four years ago, the experience of Head Start was going to change the dynamics of my family? This is truly a love story in the making. A story of self-discovery and learning not just to value life, but to find value in every life."

## Focus on Reading

It's "Back to School" time! Visit the Resource Center or your local library to borrow these books:

*If You Take a Mouse to School*  
by Laura Numeroff

*Lola Loves Stories*  
by Anna McQuinn

*The Name Jar*  
by Yangsook Choi

*Growing Vegetable Soup*  
by Lois Ehlert

*The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree*  
by Gail Gibbons

*Arnie and the New Kid*  
by Nancy Carlson

**Parenting tips, developmental milestones, and more... LACOE Head Start-State Preschool is your reliable source for early childhood education information.**



<https://twitter.com/lacoeheadstart>



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## Upcoming Events

### Be a Hero: Take Your Child to Preschool Day

#### WHAT

Male role models are encouraged to become involved in their children's education

#### WHERE

Your child's classroom or socialization site

#### WHEN

Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Ask your child's classroom teacher or home visitor for details.



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Los Angeles County  
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