Back-to-School With Confidence!

July 2025

Dear Friend of Children,

Eight-year-old Carter doesn't meet a stranger. With a kind heart, a sharp mind, and a snaggle-toothed grin that can steal your heart, Carter is the kind of child who makes you believe in a brighter future.

We recently asked Carter how he feels about starting a new school year. Without hesitation, he gave it a 9.5 out of 10! And with good reason—last year, Carter made the Principal's List and proudly shows off his "giant trophy" to anyone who'll look. "School is very important so you can be smart with your job," he said. We couldn't agree more—and we are so proud of his hard work, especially given the difficult circumstances he's overcome.

Carter is excited to begin third grade this fall. He's most looking forward to meeting new teachers, making new friends, and learning even more—especially in his favorite subject: math. He confidently told us, "I know what 1000 x 1000 equals!" He also loves PE, visiting the library, and snack day on Fridays (Skittles and chips are his go-to!).

When asked what kids need for the new school year, Carter made a thoughtful list: "pencils, journals, a big binder, paper, backpacks, lunch boxes, uniforms, and cool tennis shoes." His insight? "Girls like glittery unicorn backpacks, and boys like blue athletic ones with lots of zippers to hold stuff."

You can help make Carter's list a reality.

Your gift today ensures that children like Carter walk into school with confidence, dressed and equipped to succeed. The right supplies—and the dignity that comes with having them—can be the difference between a child who feels left behind and a child who feels seen, valued, and ready to thrive.

Thank you for supporting our kids as they take their next brave steps. With your help, we're looking forward to a year full of growth, joy, and maybe even a few more "giant trophies!"

For the children,

Perry Hancock, Ph.D. President and CEO