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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE SECRETS OF BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUCCESS It's as Easy as 1-2-3

Fall is just around the corner, which means it's back-to-school for millions of children across the country. G4 Publishing of Tinley Park, IL, (<http://www.thefamilyplanner.com>) wants to help families ensure a smooth transition from the swimming pool to the classroom.

"Back-to-school can be successful with proper planning and preparation," says Patty Grenda, creator of The Family Planner (<http://www.thefamilyplanner.com>). "Being a teacher and parent myself, I have learned the secrets to mastering the yearly transition by taking a pro-active approach to the upcoming school year. I hope others will find the following tips helpful in their quest for back-to-school success."

- **Beat the Mad Rush.** Get out and shop now! Don't wait until the last minute to find that perfect outfit in just the right size and color. Shop early when the racks are full and the stores are not. Turn a rainy summer day into a shopping marathon. Head to the stores early and take advantage of the great deals on school supplies and avoid the crowded aisles and out-of-stock items. Procrastination is the perfect recipe for disaster. Don't delay!
- **Allow Time to Adjust.** Find the alarm button again and set it! Start preparing one week prior to the first day of school by getting up fifteen minutes earlier each day until the desired wake up time is reached. Allow plenty of extra time the first few days of school to work out any quirks. Establishing a morning routine that runs smoothly takes time. To lesson the morning load making lunches at night works great. Get the whole family involved. Kids love to help out in the kitchen and are more likely to eat a lunch they have chosen for themselves. Likewise, school clothes should be set out the night before. Another excellent opportunity for getting the kids involved in the decision making and avoiding battles in the morning. Everyone wins with a pro-active approach to the new school year.
- **Prepare the Home.** Plan ahead and get organized now! Together with the kids, go through their closets and drawers to make room for the new school wardrobe. Donate any unwanted items to a local charity. Choose a quiet, well lit place in the home for doing homework. Make sure it is fully stocked with all the basics. Next, designate a drop-off spot, for instance, a basket for all important school papers. This basket should be accessible to all family members and centrally located beside a full-size daily planner. A daily planner is a must have item for every household. There is no better time to begin using a planner than the start of a new school year. Make the transition from summer to fall the easiest of all and start planning today.

The Family Planner is a full-size daily planner starting in August. It was specifically designed by a teacher with today's busy family in mind. Its spacious daily columns and weekly-view make even the most overwhelming schedules manageable. The new monthly calendar allows for long term planning and is just one of the endless benefits this unique planner has to offer. The user-friendly format makes The Family Planner a great organizational tool for the entire family. It's the must have daily planner for all busy families. The product mothers have been searching for with a planning system that really works!

Patty Grenda, creator of The Family Planner, is quoted regularly in newspapers and magazines nationwide with her expert advice on organization and planning. Grenda, President of G4 Publishing, has appeared several times on *ABC 7 News in Chicago*, as well as, *The Mom Show at World Talk Radio*. Patty Grenda is committed to helping families strive to simplify their lives and will continue to offer her expertise with new and innovative approaches to organization.

More information is available from Patty Grenda at 708.528.2345; 17648 Pheasant Drive, Tinley Park, IL 60487; g4publishing@thefamilyplanner.com.

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