

December 12, 2013

Dear

First, let us be clear- it is an honor to be your parents. Your presence in our lives makes the sun shine brighter, the birds sing sweeter and the days more fun. We appreciate your open heart, kind nature and great hair (when it's washed and combed). We wrote this letter to you because we believe in you and want you to know that being a good person and learning are lifelong projects and our goal is to support you in exploring your place in the world. You will do great things in life and we are exciting to be a part of your legacy.

We see much strength in your academics. You can be patient and you know how to complete the assignments Michelle assigns. You have thoughtful responses and like to share your ideas. Rarely do you get stuck on a problem and can't figure it out. It seems your biggest challenges are 1.) beginning a task, and 2.) staying focused on completing the work. We are committed to helping in these areas by reminding you to budget your time, make a clean space for your homework, giving you spelling tests, talking through a math problem and organizing papers so we are ready for school the next day. To be successful, continue to meet us half way by reminding yourself that completed homework is your responsibility. You need to be the boss of what is expected of you. If we can do something specific in this area please ask; our goal is blow wind in your academic sail when wind is not coming from anywhere else. You clearly get wind during the school day, your portfolio fantastic.

We feel proud and happy when you are proud. However, when there are hard times or things don't go your way, you can get very depressed. It is sad for us to see you get so low and stay in a dark place when you have a small setback. We must keep trying and have a good attitude. Don't be so hard on yourself and stay positive. Everything gets better with time, and maybe it wasn't so bad to begin with.

You are a very smart boy, and this is something even strangers have commented on when you were very young. You have a good mind and a big heart. Let's try to make each day a good day. All the time you spend doing quality work in school certainly shows in your writing, math and artwork- thank you for sharing it with us.

With much love and commitment,

The block contains two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is stylized and appears to be 'Dad'. The signature on the right is also stylized and appears to be 'Mom', with a small heart symbol drawn above the letter 'o'.

Papa & Mama