

To-Do List before putting the kids back in school

- *Write out your goals for your kids, especially, but not only the academic ones*
- *If your co-parent or kids or other invested parties will write out lists, ask them to do so*
- *Compare lists: do you need to combine all the lists into a Family Super List? Are there smaller goals that will give you more 'wins' per unit time? Does everyone agree on the Bigger (or longer-term) goals?*
- *Consider posting your list of "What Counts as a Homeschooling Win" up on your refrigerator (or some slightly less busy but still visible) space.*
- *Track your wins – and celebrate them! Even small things can be an excuse for ice cream or high fives.*
- *Keep sharing your wins with your co-parent and other invested parties. Do it where the kids can hear – it's inevitable that they hear what didn't work when we grade or correct their work, so a bit of positive feedback (both directly to them and where they can hear you telling others) is fully warranted.*
- *Remember: THERE ARE NO FAILURES (only opportunities to learn something we maybe didn't plan on)*
- *...and that includes sending the kids to school. If that's the right decision, do it. But don't do it because of thinking you can't handle the work or that your kids will end up in therapy later. Do what feels right, keep your 'Village' on board, and enjoy the journey.*