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Holly Groschner
President and CEO
Vermont PBS
204 Ethan Allen Avenue
Colchester, VT 05446

Paul Behrmen
Director
Champlain Valley Head Start
431 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Holly and Paul:

Congratulations to you, your staff and boards and, most importantly, the parents and children who will participate in and benefit from your new partnership, Parents + Preschool.

For more than fifty years, Head Start has been an indispensable tool to provide preschool children of low-income families with a comprehensive program to meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs. And it is always inspiring to me to see how local Head Start programs develop innovative programs with children and parents to achieve those goals.

By collaborating with PBS to bring together children's content and technology with Head Start's certified teachers, Parents + Preschool is certainly an example of just that kind of innovative thinking. This partnership will add to the parents' understanding of digital tools that can be used for the educational benefit of their children.

For far too long, our society has undervalued the need for high quality and widely accessible early childhood educational programs. Ninety percent of brain development occurs between birth and five years of age, yet we have never sufficiently invested in programs that ensure all children entering kindergarten have the highest level of preparation possible.

Parents + Preschool is a strong step toward giving preschool children a solid foundation for a successful education. I wish you success in this exciting endeavor.

Sincerely,



BERNIE SANDERS
UNITED STATES SENATOR