# Results and Insights from the 2016 Back-to-School Season

Season-to-Date POS Results: Jul 03 – Aug 20 2016

September 2016

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### **Highlights**

90%

Store sales account for over 90% of retail sales during BTS.



Shifts in school start dates impact when consumers are in stores.





Shifts in tax-free holiday periods impact consumer spending.



Teachers increasingly relying on school lists to stock the classroom.

Presence of technology in the classroom continues to grow.

#### **Back-To-School Season Shoppers**

Approximately 60% of shoppers buying supplies during the back-to-school season are parents purchasing items for a child.

Parent buying for a child

61%



Teacher buying for students

6%

Student buying for own needs

30%





Other buyer

10%

Source: The NPD Group/Back-to-School Monitor 2015

#### **Back-To-School Spend by Category**

Spending on traditional supplies will account for approximately 30% of total back-to-school spending.

Traditional supplies

29%



Personal hygiene

3%

Technology 59%





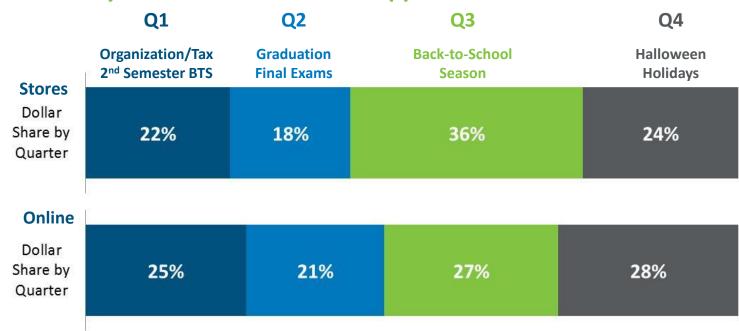
Backpacks & lunch bags

9%

Source: The NPD Group/Back-to-School Monitor 2014

# Back-to-School Accounts for 36% of Yearly Traditional Supplies Dollar Store Sales

**Dollar Share by Quarter – Traditional Supplies** 

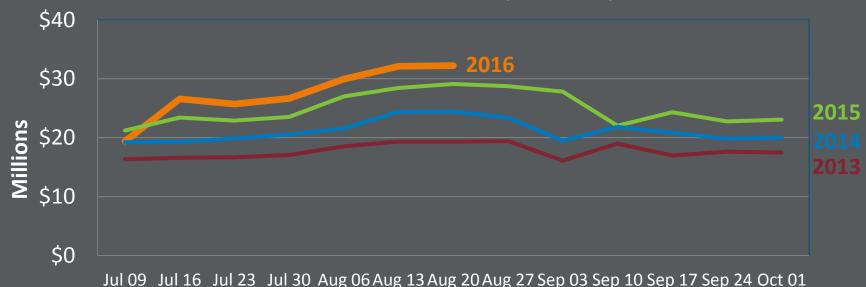


Source: The NPD Group/ Weekly Tracking Service/52 WE January 02 2016/Excluding Janitorial and Breakroom.

#### **Birth Of A Season Online**

Back-to-school ecommerce spend is taking shape; a more prominent seasonal arc is forming from the first week of August and lasting through mid-September.

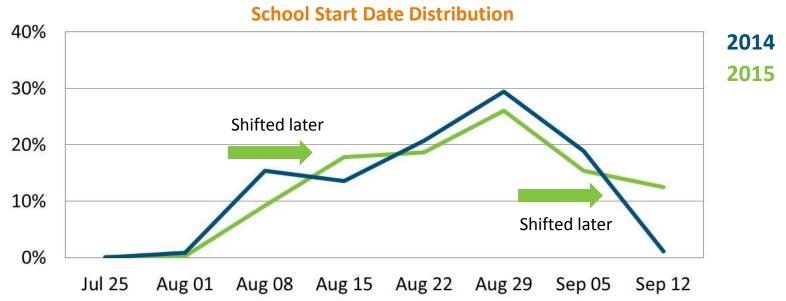
#### Third Quarter Ecommerce Weekly Dollar Spend



Source: The NPD Group/ Weekly Tracking Service/Excluding Janitorial and Breakroom.

#### **Labor Day Leads to School Start Date Shifts**

A late Labor Day holiday in 2016 meant that later school start dates would shift sales further out into August and September like in 2015.

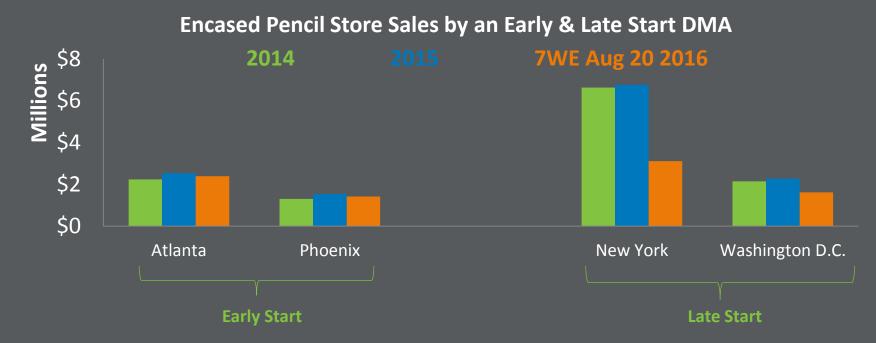


Source: Back-to-School Monitor/Total Season/School Start Date by School Level

Source: Back-to-School Lists 2014 and 2015

## Early and Late School Start DMA Differences

Early and late school starts influence when consumers are purchasing supplies and can drive total industry sales trends.



Source: The NPD Group/ Weekly Tracking Service/Excluding Janitorial and Breakroom/ 7WE Aug 20 2016

## **Top 4 School List Mentions on Teacher's Lists**

- 1. Wood case pencils
- 2. Glue sticks
- 3. Facial tissue
- 4. Scissors

**Greater rate of Southern Region mentions for:** 

- L. Construction/drawing paper
- 2. Pronged folders
- 3. Counter top soap



**Stocking the Classroom** 

+70%

provide a school list

+30%

offer school supply packs

+40%

Distribute wish lists

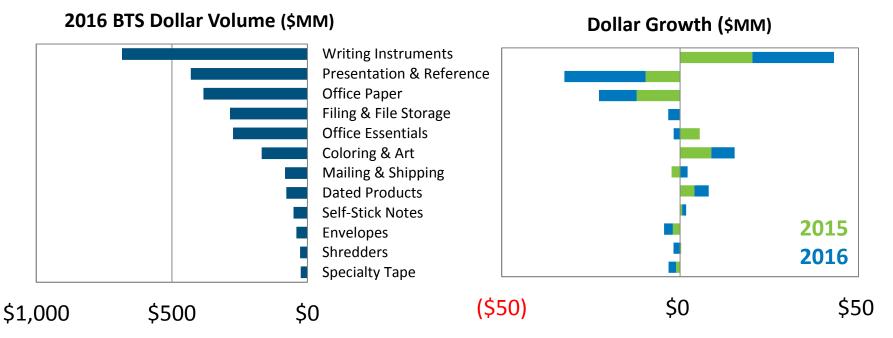
+90%

will use personal income



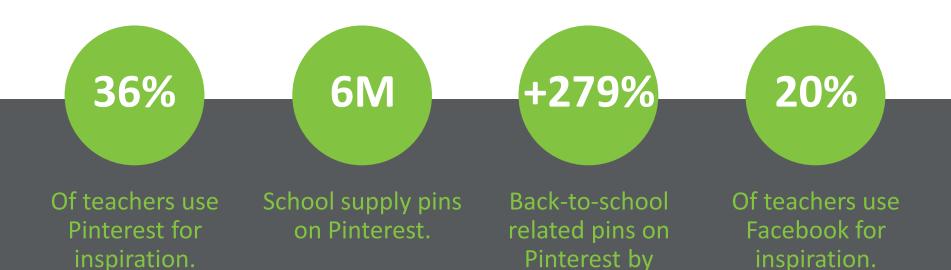
#### **Back-To-School Season Retail Sales**

Season-to-date growth at retail stores is stemming from writing, coloring and art, and dated products in 2016.



Source: The NPD Group/ Weekly Tracking Service/Excluding Janitorial and Breakroom/ 7WE Aug 20 2016

#### **Social Media Engagement and Influence**



Source: The NPD Group Inc./Today's Teachers: School Supply Purchasing Dynamics & Behaviors

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/back-to-school-pinterest-trends 55d24403e4b07addcb43bbc

August.

# QUESTIONS?

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