

## ABOUT PTA

PTA comprises 27,000 members in Indiana and approximately 5 million nationally. These members are devoted parents and other concerned adults dedicated to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who is concerned with the education, health and welfare of children and youth. National PTA and specifically Indiana PTA understand the importance of men in the lives of children and is committed to increasing male involvement.

Indiana PTA will:

- Work with schools and communities, promoting a variety of male involvement programs that will engage fathers and positive male role models
- Act as a resource for fatherhood issues

Should you need further assistance in this endeavor, please contact our state office.

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### Resources:

Armin Brott. "Ask Mr. Dad -- The Importance of a Father's Involvement in His Children's Education." Savvy Solutions for Expectant Dads, New Dads, Dads of Toddlers and Schoolage Kids, Single Dads, and Dads in the Military, from Armin Brott: America's Most Trusted Dad(tm), All at MrDad.com. 2008. Web. 01 Sept. 2010. <<http://www.mrdad.com/qa/schoolage/father-involvement-in-school.htm>>.

Education.com, Inc. "The Hidden Benefits of Being an Involved Father | Education.com." Education.com | An Education & Child Development Site for Parents | Parenting & Educational Resource. 2006-2010. Web. 01 Sept. 2010. <[http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref\\_Hidden\\_Benefits/](http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Hidden_Benefits/)>.

"The Importance of Fathers in Children's Lives." Fathering Magazine | Fatherhood | Fathers | Dads | Family. Web. 01 Sept. 2010. <<http://www.fathermag.com/topics/importance/>>.

McClure, Robin. "Involve Dad In Early Child Care Programs." About.com Search - Find It Now! Web. 01 Sept. 2010. <<http://childcare.about.com/od/volunteerism/a/dadcare.htm>>.

PTA. Get More Involved! Men Organized to Raise Engagement. Alexandria: PTA, 2009. Print.

Indiana  
**PTA**  
everychild.one voice.



## MALE INVOLVEMENT:

*Helping  
Children  
Achieve*

## Benefits of Fathers Being Involved

While we can spout off a great deal of research showing direct connections between moms being involved in their child's education, there are a number of benefits that are directly related to fathers being involved.

### THEIR CHILDREN:

- Do better in school and enjoy it
- Half of their children get mostly "A"s as compared to only a third when dads are not involved
- Half as likely to repeat a grade
- Much less likely to get suspended
- More likely to participate in extracurricular activities
- Are higher-performing, more responsible adults
- More interested in exploring the world around them
- Do better on standardized tests

### THE MEN THEMSELVES:

- Are more involved at home
- Are more likely to visit museums, etc
- Feel more important in their child's life

### SCHOOLS BENEFIT

- With higher teacher morale
- Teacher's get more family support
- Parents have a higher opinion of teachers
- Schools have better reputations in the community

## PTA MORE<sup>SM</sup> Men Organized to Raise Engagement

This is a coalition of organizations working to ensure greater father and male involvement.

Black Star Project  
Chicago, Illinois  
[www.blackstarproject.org](http://www.blackstarproject.org)

National Fatherhood Initiative  
Gaithersburg, Maryland  
[www.fatherhood.org](http://www.fatherhood.org)

Watch D.O.G.S/ (Dads of Great Students)  
Shawnee Mission, Kansas  
[www.fathers.com](http://www.fathers.com)

All Pro Dad  
Tampa, Florida  
[www.allprodad.com](http://www.allprodad.com)

Real Men Cook/Real Men charities  
Chicago, Illinois  
[www.realmencook.com](http://www.realmencook.com)

National Center for Fathering  
[www.ncoff.gse.upenn.edu](http://www.ncoff.gse.upenn.edu)

## Strategies to Promote Participation by Men

In our ever-changing society, a silent but immense transformation is taking place in American families. The number of single fathers is growing at a rapid rate, nearly twice that of mothers. In fact, 20% of single parents today are single fathers (that is more than 2 million). As family roles continue to change, we see 2/3s of mothers of younger children working to help make ends meet. With this growing number of working moms, dads are needed to help provide child care for their children. Fortunately, this is a role dads want to take on. In most cases, they no longer are satisfied with the role of "breadwinner". But how do they get involved in their child's educational life? The following are strategies that promote participation by dads or other significant male role models in a child's life.

- Studies indicate that dads prefer to attend activities with their wives and families, not just activities specifically for dads. Examples of these activities might include parenting classes, projects, family movie, math or science nights.

- Make times convenient for fathers by scheduling evening and weekend activities
- Sponsor activities that teach fathers how to help their children learn
- Showcase pictures of fathers and children
- Tell dads how much their involvement is appreciated
- Dad's Clubs

