

# ALL ABOUT



WATCH D.O.G.S.® (Dads Of Great Students) is an innovative father involvement, educational initiative of the National Center For Fathering. There are 2 primary goals of the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program.

- 1) To provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important.
- 2) To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

WATCH D.O.G.S.® began in 1998 in a single school in Springdale, Arkansas and has since grown into a nationally recognized program that has brought hundreds of thousands of fathers and father figures into the school classrooms and hallways across the country, creating millions of hours of "in school" volunteer time and having a tremendously positive impact on the educational process.

## Program Benefits

- Students gain positive male role models.
- Schools gain an extra set of eyes and ears. The presence of a father or father figure will provide an additional deterrent to bullying, enhance a sense of security in the building, and will help to create an environment conducive to learning.
- Fathers get a glimpse of their students' everyday world and learn about the increasingly complex challenges and decisions today's youth are facing. As a result, they can learn to relate better to their student and hopefully connect with them.
- Fathers gain a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on their student's life in three critical areas including: academic performance, self-esteem, social behavior.
- Due to budget shortfalls and cutbacks, often teachers are presented with larger classrooms each year. The WatchDOGS volunteers provide real and important help for the teachers and the students.

## Who are WatchDOGS (Dads Of Great Students)?

WatchDOGS are fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father-figures who volunteer for at least one day each year at an official WATCH D.O.G.S.® school. During the day, WatchDOGS may read and work on flash cards with students, play at recess, eat lunch with students, watch the school entrances and hallways, assist with traffic flow and any other assigned activities where they actively engage with not only their own students, but other students as well. Many school principals have reported that the mere presence of a WatchDOG dramatically reduces reports of bullying. On the day of their participation, WatchDOGS are given a brief review of their involvement and they wear an official WATCH D.O.G.S.® t-shirt with a disposable 'Dog Tag' identifying them as WatchDOGS.

## Program Recognition

The WATCH D.O.G.S.® program has been recognized by the United States Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and has been involved in the U.S. Department of Education's P.F.I.E. (Partnership For Family Involvement In Education) and the Department's Safe School Summit. The WATCH D.O.G.S.® program is a founding member of National PTA's M.O.R.E. Alliance (Men Organized to Raise Engagement). The WATCH D.O.G.S.® program was featured on ABC World News Tonight with Charlie Gibson in their "Spirit of America" segment on November 17, 2008, on NBC's Nightly News with Brian Williams on September 12, 2012 and on NBC's Today Show which aired February 11, 2013. Also, the program has been recognized on the floor of Congress as a program that "can be a great tool in our efforts to prevent school violence and improve student performance because it can increase parental initiative and involvement in their children's education." (*Congressional Record*, February 7, 2000 page S392) WATCH D.O.G.S.® has been endorsed by the President's Advisory Council and included in the March 2010 report to the President. In June 2011, US Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan visited a local WATCH D.O.G.S.® program in the DC area to encourage fathers and father figures to become more active in the educational system and to get a firsthand glimpse of the program.

For more information, visit our website at [www.fathers.com/watchdogs](http://www.fathers.com/watchdogs), email [watchdogs@fathers.com](mailto:watchdogs@fathers.com) or call us at 1-888-540-DOGS(3647) to speak with a Program Developer.

# **WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) PROGRAM**

## **Information:**

WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) - Engage men, inspire children, reduce bullying and enhance the educational environment at your school.

WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) - Is the father involvement initiative of the National Center for Fathering that organizes fathers and father figures in order to provide positive male role models for the students and to enhance school security. Today, more than **5,348 active programs in 46 states** participate in the WATCH D.O.G.S. Program. There are currently WatchD.O.G.S. programs in Canada, China, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Barbados.

Who are WatchDOGS? Fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, uncles, and other father figures who volunteer to serve at least one day a year in a variety of school activities as assigned by the school principal or other administrator.

## **Background**

WATCH D.O.G.S. ® (Dads Of Great Students) is an innovative father involvement, educational initiative of the **National Center For Fathering**. It began in 1998 in a single school in Springdale, Arkansas and has since grown into a nationally recognized program that has brought hundreds of thousands of fathers and father figures into our nation's classrooms and hallways. WATCH D.O.G.S. ® has created millions of "in school" volunteer hours and continues to have a tremendously positive impact on the educational process.

## **Program Goals**

- 1) To provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important.
- 2) To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

## **How WATCH D.O.G.S. Works**

**WATCH D.O.G.S.\***, a K-12 program, invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one day all day at their child's/student's school during the school year. Individuals sign up at a kick-off event such as a "Dads and Kids Pizza Night" or "Donuts with Dad" or in the office at any time throughout the school year. The program is overseen by a "Top Dog" volunteer who partners with the school administrator to coordinate scheduling and identify opportunities for WatchDOGS to provide assistance at the school. WatchDOG volunteers perform a variety of tasks during their volunteer day including monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom with a teacher's guidance by working with small groups of students on homework, flashcards, or spelling.

## **Program Effectiveness**

During 2003, **WATCH D.O.G.S.\*** conducted a survey of 50 participating schools nationwide. Key findings: 89% agree that **WATCH D.O.G.S.\*** is a valuable component of the school's efforts to promote a safe and positive learning environment for students. 79% agree that since implementing the **WATCH D.O.G.S.\*** program, the school has experienced an increase in father involvement in areas other than **WATCH D.O.G.S.\*** (parent-teacher conferences, volunteerism)

## **Program Recognition**

In its relatively short history, **WATCH D.O.G.S.\*** has proven to be influential and effective in a number of venues: \* Involved in the U.S. Department of Education Father Involvement In Education Project beginning in 2005. \* Recognized on the floor of Congress as a program that "can be a great tool in our efforts to prevent school violence and to improve student performance because it can increase parental initiative and involvement in their children's education." Congressional Record, Feb. 7, 2000, page S-392. \* Involved in the U.S. Department of Education's P.F.I.E. (Partnership For Family Involvement In Education).

## **How Will Watch D.O.G.S. Support Education and Safety at Running Creek Elementary?**



### **These Men Will:**

- Always wear Official Uniform T-shirts while they are on official Watch DOG duty.
- ENCOURAGE STUDENTS! (with a lot of smiles and high-fives, etc.)
- Help with traffic flow of vehicles and students at arrival and dismissal times
- Monitor hallways and entrances
- Monitor building- inside/outside
- Assist in the lunchroom
- Assist at recess
- Eat lunch with students
- Play or referee on the playground or in the gym
- Read with classes or tutor small groups of students
- Work with students on flashcards and/or educational games
- Actively and positively engage with their student and others
- Speak to classes about the importance of education and career choices
- Be available to mentor male students
- Be chaperones on field trips
- Support special classes (i.e. music, art, PE, computer lab, library, etc.)with your presence and/or experience
- Smile and be a hero for a day!

### **These Men *Should NOT*:**

- Go into students' (girls' or boys') restrooms
- Be alone or unsupervised with students
- Espouse political, ethical, or religious beliefs to students
- Sell or give their Official Watch D.O.G.S. T-shirt to someone who isn't an approved WatchDOG volunteer.
- Engage in any conduct that brings disrespect to himself or his student(s), the school and/or the Watch D.O.G.S. program and other volunteering fathers.





## Watch DOGS T-Shirt Order Form:



Thank you for supporting Running Creek and our students. If you have questions about the program or If you need directions on how to sign-up, please contact our School Counselor, Kelly Tarr: [Ktarr@esdk12.org](mailto:Ktarr@esdk12.org)

All Watch DOGS need to have a uniform so they are easily recognizable in the building. Complete and return this form to school with cash or Check made out to RCE.

Watch DOG's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

>> Please list the Quantity and Circle the Size you want for each item you order <<



**\$22 Men's Uniform Short Sleeve White Shirt** QTY: \_\_\_\_\_ SM MD LG XL

Add \$8.00 for 2XL 3XL 4XL 5XL 6XL



**\$23 Men's Military Uniform Short Sleeve Grey** QTY: \_\_\_\_\_ SM MD LG XL

Add \$8.00 for 2XL 3XL



**\$44 Men's Uniform Hooded Sweatshirt** QTY: \_\_\_\_\_ SM LG XL

Add \$8.00 for 2XL 3XL

**Total Amount of Order: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (This includes shipping and tax)**

- If interested, you can visit the Dog Store online to purchase your uniform and have it ship directly to you or shop for other items (hats, kid t-shirts, etc.)

Shop here: <https://dadsofgreatstudents.com/general>



# WatchDOGS

## Registration Form

### Running Creek Elementary



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name(s) and grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Do they offer paid Community Service hours? Yes or No

Would your employer consider being a funding partner for the school or the WATCH D.O.G.S.\* Program? Yes or No

If yes, whom should the coordinator contact? \_\_\_\_\_

Work days/hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies/Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any physical limitations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Strengths/special training: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please

return this form to one of the following locations:

\* Scan and email to [ktarr@esdk12.org](mailto:ktarr@esdk12.org)

\* Fax to (303-688-5305 Attn: Kelly Tarr)

-Drop the form off at the office or with your student's teacher.

### How to Sign-Up for a Watch DOG Day:

Be sure to turn in your background form, order your t-shirt and then sign-up for a date to volunteer.

We're using Sign Up Genius

Here's how it works:

1) Click this link to see our Sign Up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4FADAE2EA7FC1-watch>

2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.

3) If you want me to email you the sign up link, just send me an email.

If you need help, I can sign you up manually: [ktarr@esdk12.org](mailto:ktarr@esdk12.org)



# ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT

This is a Release of Liability  
Please read carefully before signing.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned volunteer for the Elizabeth School District (District), understand that I am not an employee, agent or contractor for the District.

I further understand that the District will not provide me with any pay, compensation, monetary or otherwise, insurance, workers' compensation or any other benefit to which an employee may be entitled.

In exchange for the opportunity to participate as a volunteer I hereby release the District, its employees, elected and appointed officials and any other representatives of the District from any and all liability for any injury to me or damage to my property which may result from my participation in the capacity of a volunteer. This release shall be binding on me and any other persons making claim through me or on my behalf.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understood, and voluntarily agreed to the foregoing waiver and release agreement.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AUTHORIZATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned volunteer for the Elizabeth School District (District), understand that in the best interests of the District's students, I am required to submit to a criminal background check to be performed by the District through the Colorado Bureau of Investigation.

I further give my consent for the District to conduct this criminal background investigation, and voluntarily consent to provide the following information pursuant to this investigation.

Print Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_