



**Oregon PTA Contact:** Jackee Duvall, 503-788-0857

**WATCH D.O.G.S. Contact:** Eric Snow, 888-540-3647

## **Oregon PTA and WATCH D.O.G.S. to Raise Male Engagement in Oregon Schools**

**Portland, Oregon (November 1, 2011)** – Oregon PTA and WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) today announced a partnership that will bring thousands of dads and other male role models into schools across Oregon to volunteer for a day in their child’s school.

“Oregon PTA is committed to increasing parent involvement in our schools, and that includes engaging more dads in this process,” says Jackee Duvall, Oregon PTA President. “We are excited to provide our PTAs and schools with a great tool, in WATCH D.O.G.S., that they can use to bring dads and other significant male role models into the school building to inspire children, prevent bullying, and help create the most successful educational environment possible in the school.”

The research shows the value of parental involvement in a child’s education, including numerous developmental benefits specific to father involvement, and this partnership between the Oregon PTA and WATCH D.O.G.S. will help PTAs implement a successful, easy, ready-to-use program that will allow schools, parents, and students to derive those benefits. PTAs will now have access to information, resources, and training necessary to welcome dads into the school and engage them in a structured, meaningful way that will keep dads returning to the school building week after week and year after year.

### **ABOUT OREGON PTA:**

Oregon PTA ([www.oregonpta.org](http://www.oregonpta.org)) comprises thousands of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. Oregon PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association 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 wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.

**ABOUT WATCH D.O.G.S.:**

WATCH D.O.G.S. ([www.fathers.com/watchdogs](http://www.fathers.com/watchdogs)), a founding member of National PTA's MORE Alliance (Men Organized to Raise Engagement), 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, **2200 active programs in 41 states** participate in the WATCH D.O.G.S. program. The National Center for Fathering is a non-profit research and education organization whose vision is to see every child with an involved father or father figure. Based in Kansas City, its mission is to inspire and equip men through research, training, programs and resources to be the fathers, grandfathers and father figures their children need.