

# VISION

Envisioning an equitable world where dads invest in their families & communities.



# MISSION

Empowering dads to be agents for positive change.

## LAUNCH OUR SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAM AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

### WHO

- Dads with elementary school aged children who want to engage with one another, their families, and the larger school community.

### WHAT

- Host monthly Gatherings for Dads.
- Plan quarterly school-based events with local PTA/PTO.
- Champion community wide initiatives.

### WHEN

- Recruit during the first week of classes
- Pick a time during the month that works for you and your peers.
- Work with your school to pick a date for your big event!

### WHY

When fathers are more involved in the school community beyond just attending sporting events, children have been shown to:

- Get better grades
- Go further with their education
- Enjoy school more

Not only do children do better, but schools go further towards fulfilling their mission when they truly serve all parents.

### IMPACT

1. Increase dad engagement at school, class and room level events & activities
2. Increase number of dads involved in governance (i.e. PTA/PTO membership and leadership).
3. Improve dads' sense of connection with other parents and school administration, faculty and staff.

**NOTE:** the words “dad” and “father” are meant to be inclusive of any adult primary or significant caregivers, including, but not limited to birth fathers, stepfathers, extended family members, close family friends, partners, grandfathers, etc.



# PROGRAM STRATEGY

**FTP PROGRAM LEADERS:** Launch and co-lead chapters, connect other leaders and FT Staff and attend regular trainings.

**FTP PROGRAM MEETUPS:** Host 2x a semester gatherings for dads and other parents to connect, learn, & plan events.

**FTP PROGRAM EVENTS:** Host 3-4 Events for dads & kids to bond, help the community & more!

## SAMPLE MEETUPS



Do "Lightening-Round" discussions with other parents



Invite a speaker



Host a virtual conversation

## SAMPLE EVENTS



Do a "Dads Read" program with a classroom



Host a Pancake Breakfast for the school community



Challenge your community to a paper airplane competition!

### Get Connected.

**Web:** [www.fatheringtogether.org](http://www.fatheringtogether.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/fatheringtogether](https://facebook.com/fatheringtogether)

**LinkedIn:** [linkedin.com/company/fathering-together](https://linkedin.com/company/fathering-together)

**Instagram:** @FatheringTogether

**Twitter:** FatherTogether

### Contact Us.

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Executive Director

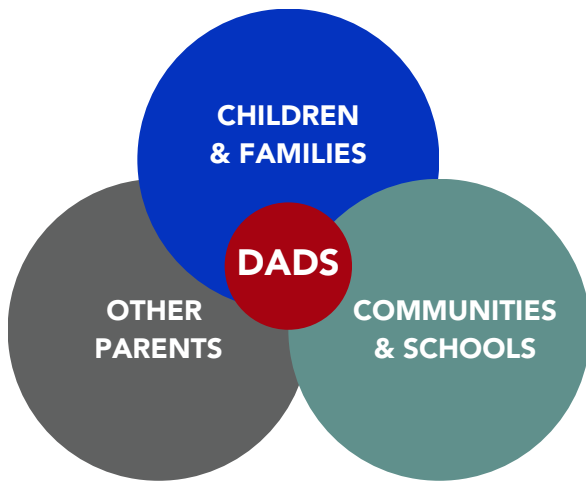


# FATHERING TOGETHER SCHOOL CHAPTERS

## WHAT IS AN FT DAD CHAPTER IN SCHOOLS?

Most Chapters are started within the formal structure of the main parent organization (PTA, PTO, PA) in the school as a subcommittee, pilot program or task-force. Chapters may also be started as standalone entities in the school. In all cases, Chapters maintain communication with the parent organization and school administration on a regular basis.

The purpose of FT Dad Chapters is to strengthen connections between:



Practically, FT Dad Chapters do the following:

- **FT DAD LEADERS**
  - Launch and co-lead school chapters
  - Stay connected with the school admin, PTA/PTO and Fathering Together.
- **FT SCHOOL GATHERINGS**
  - Monthly informal (in-person, virtual or hybrid) gatherings for dads.
  - Provide a social outlet for dads in a comfortable, informal space
  - Plan, share decision making and organize Chapter Events
- **FT SCHOOL EVENTS**
  - Take place 3-4 times each year
  - Fulfill the mission of connecting Dads & kids/families, other parents and the school.

## WHY ARE FT DAD CHAPTERS IMPORTANT?

### THE TWO-WAY STREET OF MALE INVOLVEMENT

The top two reasons cited by dads for why they don't get involved? 'Nobody asked' and 'no time.' Whether you think of these responses, part of the solution is what we call 'The Two-Way Street of Dad Involvement.' Parent group leaders, school administrators and teachers all need to reach out to this vastly untapped, underutilized parent population and fathers/males need to step out of their comfort zones, make time for their child's education and school experience.

### WHAT THE RESEARCH SHOWS

We know from research that when fathers are more involved in the school community beyond just attending sporting events, children have been shown to get better grades, go further with their education and actually enjoy school more. Not only do children do better, but schools go further towards fulfilling their mission when they truly serve all parents.

- Teachers/Administrators discover untapped resources.
- Mothers – including single, widowed, divorced or those in same-sex relationships – gain access to a community of adult male role models for their children and feel more balanced.
- Dads/Males learn about their children's lives, connect with other adults, and feel like useful participants, not sideline observers.

## HOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT STARTING AN FT DAD CHAPTER?

Contact: [john@fatheringtogether.org](mailto:john@fatheringtogether.org)  
[www.fatheringtogether.org](http://www.fatheringtogether.org)