

Our Schools



Parents' Involvement In Schools Is Critical

(NAPSM)—One way to help your child to succeed in school may be to drop by for a visit.

A little involvement can go a long way, say experts at National Parent Teacher Association (PTA). You don't have to spend hours at school each week. Even a monthly visit can make a difference.

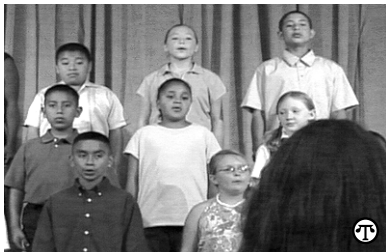
When parents get involved:

- Students have better attendance records.
- Students achieve higher test scores and grades.
- Students have higher graduation rates and are more likely to pursue higher education.
- Students build stronger relationships with parents.

According to National PTA, only one in four parents are actively involved in their children's education. For working parents, that number drops to only one in nine.

"When parents take an active role in their children's education, it has a very positive effect," reports Warlene Gary, CEO of National PTA. "Parents need to stay involved from kindergarten through high school to assure that their children get the kind of education that will help them succeed."

National PTA and The Advertising Council have launched a campaign encouraging parent involvement in schools. Through various forms of media, the campaign encourages parents to join



Students whose parents visit schools get higher grades and do better on tests.

PTA and offers a Web site to connect parents with simple tips and ideas to get involved in their children's school and education.

Here are a few ways to get started:

- Talk to your child's teacher about your child's interests and ask how you can support learning at home.
- Plan a lunch date with your children in the school cafeteria.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Join the PTA.
- Go to school events such as back-to-school night.
- Keep current on school policies, schedules and rules.
- Attend school board meetings.
- Check your school's Web site.
- Talk to your child's school counselor if you have any concerns or questions.

National PTA is the largest volunteer parent organization in the U.S. For more information, visit www.pta.org.