



# Media Release

## *Alice Johnson Junior High School*

Kicks Off WATCH D.O.G.S.®

### (Dads Of Great Students) Program

- WHO:** Students and fathers and father-figures of Alice Johnson Junior High School Students
- WHAT:** A Dads and Kids' Pizza Night celebration to launch a family and community engagement program called WATCH D.O.G.S.® (Dads Of Great Students). The WATCH D.O.G.S.® program was created by a group of parents and educators in a single school in 1998, and has since grown to one of the largest and most respected family and community engagement initiatives in the country. Each year thousands of schools across the country utilize the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program to reach out to the fathers and father-figures of their students and invite those men to take at least one full day off work during the school year and spend that entire day volunteering in their child's school. Each year WATCH D.O.G.S.® generates millions of in school volunteer hours in support of our students and educators. Please call WATCH D.O.G.S.® at 888-540-DOGS (3647) for additional information.
- WHEN:** **Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:15pm**
- WHERE:** **Alice Johnson Junior High School (281-452-8030)**
- WHY:** Studies by the U.S. Department of Education have demonstrated that a positive adult male role model will have a uniquely positive impact on the development and educational success of a child, dramatically increasing the child's likelihood of graduating and getting mostly A's along the way, while at the same time dramatically decreasing the likelihood of that child living in poverty, getting involved with drugs and alcohol, and avoiding potentially devastating choices that result in a criminal record or a teen pregnancy. The U.S. Department of Education has identified the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program as an effective way to increase male involvement in our nation's schools.

#### **Program benefits**

- Students gain a positive male role model. Some students do not have a father-figure present in their home and the number of male teachers has been steadily declining in recent years. More positive male role models are needed in the school setting.
- Schools gain an extra set of eyes and ears. The presence of WatchDOGS (Dads Of Great Students) can increase a sense of security at the building for students and staff, and it helps create an environment conducive to learning.
- Fathers and father-figures can spend meaningful time with their students in the school setting and gain a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on their student's life, just by being a 'dad'.
- When WatchDOGS invest a day at school, they can learn how better to partner with the school to meet the educational goals of students.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program, call 1-888-540-3647, e-mail [info@dadsogreatstudents.com](mailto:info@dadsogreatstudents.com) or visit [dadsogreatstudents.com](http://dadsogreatstudents.com).  
Principal: **Jules Pichon**, Top Dog Coordinator: **Johnny Cloud** (Alice Johnson Junior High)