

# NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENT GROUP DAY

## Fact Sheet

### **What is National School Parent Group Day?**

National School Parent Group Day, first observed on Sept. 28, 2017, is a day to recognize and celebrate the many contributions parent groups make to their schools.

More information can be found at [PTOtoday.com/parent-group-day](http://PTOtoday.com/parent-group-day).

### **What are school parent groups?**

More than 83,000 school parent groups support K-8 schools in the United States. Parent groups go by many names—PTO, PTA, HSA, PTC, and PCC, to name a few. While the groups vary in size and scope, they share the common goal of supporting schools so students can be more successful. National School Parent Group Day celebrates the work of all these groups.

### **What do school parent groups do?**

School parent groups support schools in three key ways: by providing volunteers, by funding items not included in school budgets, and by helping build connections between home and school. Thanks to the hard work of parent volunteers, schools have more of what students need to thrive, from volunteer tutors to new playground equipment and library books. When parents are involved in school, their children have better educational outcomes.

### **Why does parent involvement matter?**

Decades of research have shown that when parents are involved in their children's education, kids are more likely to:

- Earn better grades
- Score higher on tests
- Pass their classes
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills
- Show improved behavior
- Be more positive in their attitude toward school
- Complete homework assignments
- Graduate and continue their education

School parent groups play an important role in supporting parent involvement in education by helping parents feel comfortable at school and connecting parents with volunteer opportunities.

### **What is PTO Today?**

PTO Today is an essential resource for leaders of parent groups (often called parent-teacher organizations) at elementary and middle schools across the United States. PTO Today is the core property of School Family Media Inc., a broader media and services company focused exclusively on promoting and enabling practical and meaningful parent involvement in schools.

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