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## MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jim Warford

DATE: June 17, 2005

SUBJECT: All Pro Dad's Day

One of the biggest challenges in our public school system is the lack of parental involvement; many parents are not connected with their children. The latest research shows most fathers only spend five and a half minutes a day talking with their kids as compared to the four hours they spend watching television. Numerous studies have shown that the more fathers are connected with their kids, the better their children do inside and outside the classroom. The more time they spend together, the better the report card. The quality of the father-child relationship predicts the child's behavior in school as well. Fathers who help their children with homework inspire their children to higher academic achievement.

One way to increase fathers' involvement in public schools is to offer them an experience like All Pro Dad's Day, a program of Family First. It combines the familiarity of sports with important life lessons for fathers and their children. All Pro Dad's Day is a monthly event before school hours where fathers and their children meet with other dads and kids at the school cafeteria or a local restaurant for breakfast. They hear great speakers on a wide range of family topics, spend time together and are equipped with resources to strengthen their relationship. All Pro Dad's will provide all the materials necessary for this event at no charge. Already, a number of Dad's Days are up and running in public schools around our state. The response from teachers and administrators has been excellent.

I encourage you to go to <a href="http://www.allprodad.com/yourneighborhood.asp">http://www.allprodad.com/yourneighborhood.asp</a> to get a free introductory DVD about the program and how you can get fathers more involved in your schools.

JIM WARFORD K-12 CHANCELLOR