



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Hopper Primary's Watch D.O.G.S program brings dads to school to volunteer

It's a national program bringing greater male involvement into schools. And now it can be seen right here in Goose Creek CISD.

The program is called Watch D.O.G.S., standing for Dads Of Great Students. B.P. Hopper Primary School kicked off the program last week.

"It's a program in which we seek out male volunteers, not just our dads but father figures in the community, to volunteer their time to spend with our students doing a variety of activities throughout the day," said Kami Hale, Hopper principal.

Introduced last week at Hopper, Watch D.O.G.S. is a national program created by the National Center for Fathering.

The initiative has garnered plenty of media attention and was recognized and endorsed by the Department of Education in 2011.

There are more than 2,200 active programs in K-12 schools in 41 states across the nation.

The program's goal at Hopper is to have Watch D.O.G.S. spend at least one day a year at the school to be positive male role models and to provide an extra set of eyes and ears.

"Dads, granddads, uncles, stepdads and adult brothers . . . this is your chance to have a day out with your student in a fun atmosphere at school," said Goose Creek CISD Superintendent Dr. Salvador Cavazos who spoke at the kick off meeting. "I believe all dads are already heroes to their kids. But Watch D.O.G. dads take it to another level."

As for interest in the new program, Principal Hale said it was a smashing success.



[View the photo gallery.](#)

"We had 169 dads plus their children for almost 400 people in attendance," Mrs. Hale. "And we are receiving phone calls from dads who were not sure about the day they wanted to come to help us, and now they are ready to sign up."

"We are very excited to see the positive impact that our committed, involved fathers and father-figures will have on our students," Mrs. Hale said.

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