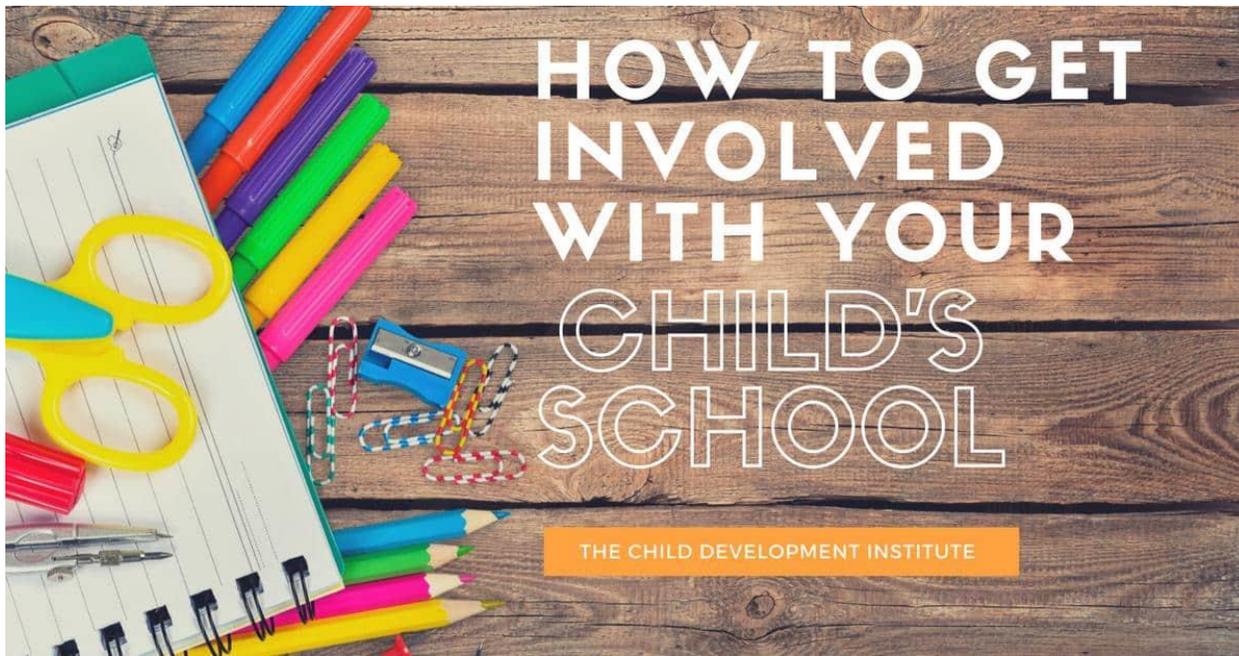


## How to Get Involved with Your Child's School

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Getting involved in your child's school activities is an excellent way to further develop a bond with your child. Getting involved also helps your child to see that you're interested in their life, which will likely foster a higher academic success rate.

There are several ways that you can get involved in your child's school such as joining the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), volunteering on field trips, and being an active presence within the school itself.

1. Join the PTA Most schools still carry on the tradition of holding regular Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) meetings.
2. The purpose of the PTA is to determine which policies are working for the school and also to implement new programs and field trips.

The PTA also works to involve parents in as much of their children's activities as they wish to be involved in. Teachers, principals, and parents all work together to ensure that the children are receiving the best possible education and home life.

3. Volunteer to Go on Field Trips



Volunteering to go on field trips is a great way to become involved in your children's academic lives. Field trips are usually designed to teach children lessons congruent to their education.

If you can arrange it, by either taking a day off of work or shelving other obligations, being there with your child to experience the field trip firsthand can be a rewarding experience. If it's not possible for you to attend, try to arrange for another family member such as your partner or a grandparent to go.

### 3. Other Ways to Get Involved

Other than joining the PTA, you can establish a regular school presence by volunteering to come in and read to the class, if possible. Otherwise, having a hands-on approach with holiday parties can be a great way to establish your presence as well.

If you're crafty, help design the decorations and invitations that the kids can bring home to share with their family members. You can even volunteer to come in and teach children a particular craft that will be easy for them to do outside of school. This may also interest other parents in becoming more involved as well – a win-win situation.

Being involved in your child's education and school life can be a great way to help your child develop a life-long love of learning. By experiencing field trips first-hand with the children and getting involved in school matters, it opens the door to possible future improvements in your child's school system.

Schools tend to appreciate outside help, especially when the budget may not allow for much legroom to pay for this help. Contact your child's school today and see how you can get involved. Your child will thank you.

About The Author Pam Myers, BSEd Pam Myers received a BsEd in Education and her teaching credential from USC and was a 6th grade teacher for 13 years for the Ocean View School District in Huntington Beach, CA. She and Dr Bob met at USC and were married in 1971. Pam is the proud mother of two grown children, Lauren, who is a Special Education teacher in the La Habra School District and a son, Greg, who is a TV and Film editor. She retired from the public schools to raise her family and has continued to work with children and families through various activities including serving as a PTA president, working with OC Philharmonic Association to bring music education to children and is serving in the youth ministry at her church. Pam and Bob worked as a team on his radio shows and she provided management support in his private practice. Painting and live theater are her passions as well as the protection of children and animals.