

WATCH D.O.G.S. FAQ



- Q: What is a Niwot Elementary WATCH D.O.G.S.?
- A: *WATCH D.O.G.S. are a cadre of dads, grandpas, uncles, and other significant male role models who spend one (or more) days volunteering at Niwot Elementary School.*

- Q: What will my daily schedule look like?
- A: *You'll be volunteering in the classroom in each grade level, in the lunchroom, at recess, and out front during pick up & drop off. You'll be provided a customized schedule and school map when you arrive at the school, during your daily orientation with Mrs. Pitz or the office staff.*

- Q: Will I get to spend time with my child?
- A: *Yes, you will spend 20 minutes in your child's (or children's) classroom. You'll also have the opportunity to eat lunch and go to recess with your child. Please note that although spending time with your child is an important aspect of the program, the larger goal of the WATCH D.O.G.S. is to provide positive male role models and support across the school.*

- Q: What kind of help will I provide in the classroom?
- A: *This really depends on the day and the class, but you can expect everything from group reading, to providing individual help, to answering questions in writing and math, to helping with special activities. The key is to be available, lean in, have fun, and just roll with it.*

- Q: What special rules and etiquette do I need to be aware of?
- A: *The key answer is, “just ask.” There will be teachers and other staffers and volunteers around. Two important things to know:*
 1. *Don’t horseplay or have physical contact with the students*
 2. *Don’t use the children’s restroom.*

- Q: Will there be “dead times” when I don’t have a scheduled activity? Then what?
- A: *Probably not. If you’re not quite sure what to do with yourself at any time, lean in and ask how you can help.*

- Q: Are there designated restrooms for adult use?
- A: *Yes, there are three: one in the main hallway to the gymnasium, one in the hallway across from the main library entrance and one in the lower hallway leading to the first grade classrooms. The adult restrooms are labeled on the school map you’ll receive during orientation.*

- Q: What are my responsibilities during drop-off and pick-up duty?
- A: *Two responsibilities really: help the staff keep traffic flowing, and be visible and the front door so the students recognize you as the daily WATCH D.O.G.S.*

- Q: What should I wear?
- A: *Official WATCH D.O.G.S. tee shirts are available for sale, or for loan on your volunteer day. The tee shirts are important to identify the daily volunteer. Otherwise, dress to move. Be comfortable.*

- Q: Can I volunteer for only part of a day?
- A: No. It is important for the sake of the program and how the calendar is set up to volunteer for an entire day.

- Q: What are my lunch options, and where should I keep my lunch if I bring one?
- A: *You can bring your lunch and store it in the refrigerator in the office work room, or you can purchase hot lunch (cash only) in the cafeteria.*

- Q: How do I sign up?
- A: *The best way is to sign up during Pizza Night. Signing up on Pizza Night shows commitment and gives the program an important perspective for planning. You may also sign up by emailing NES Dean of Students Laura Spratt @ spratt_laura@svvsd.org.*

- Q: What if I need to change my volunteer day?
- A: *Coordinate schedule adjustments through NES Dean of Students Laura Spratt @ spratt_laura@svvsd.org. Please provide as much advance notice as possible for any changes.*

Suggestion: Volunteer on or around your child's birthday to make it extra special!