ATTENTION DADS!
IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN, YOU’LL NEED PAPERWORK THAT VERIFIES YOUR CARETAKER STATUS.

IF YOU ARE MARRIED OR HAVE CUSTODY OF YOUR CHILD, you’ll need to find out what paperwork your school district needs for enrollment. Typically, schools require:

- Birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Proof of residence
- Guardianship records (if needed)

For more information about March Into Kindergarten and tips for Dads of new kindergarteners, visit:
www.Starting-Point.org
Tips for New Dads of Kindergarteners:

Give Your Child a Good Start
In today's kindergarten, much is expected of children. They learn writing, words and counting skills that lead to later school success. Help your child be ready. Offer opportunities to draw, build, play games and learn letters and numbers. Give them chores and encourage sharing.

Visit Your Child's School
Kindergarten is a big change, and your child may feel anxious about separating from you, especially if you're a divorced parent. He or she will feel more comfortable seeing the classroom, knowing where things are and meeting the teacher.

Get Involved in School Activities
Students whose parents are involved are more likely to earn higher grades, graduate and go to college. Attend parent conferences and school events, stay in contact with the teacher, join school organizations like the PTO and volunteer to help out whenever time permits.

Establish Routines
Get up early enough to avoid a morning rush. Check your child's folder or backpack daily for notes, alerts, newsletters and assignments. Set aside a regular time for homework each day and provide a quiet spot. If you share custody, make sure you and the other parent have similar expectations.

Support Your Child's Interests
Ask your child about the school day, what he or she enjoyed doing or seeing and any special things that happened. Support your child's interests and talents. Give praise and encouragement.

Read to Your Child
Reading is essential to school success and lifelong growth. Read to your child every day. Once your child learns to read, encourage reading on his or her own. Set limits on TV, internet time and video games.

Be a Role Model
Children learn in part by watching their parents. Be patient, understanding and show your child how to speak well, settle disagreements and care about others through your own example.

Get the Support You Need
You'll find support by networking with other fathers and through organizations like the Fatherhood Initiative (fatherhood initiative.cuyahogacounty.us) in Cuyahoga County, which also offers helpful resources.