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To Whom It May Concern,

As a former urban educator, I have long been interested in family engagement and its impact on children. In fact, this interest prompted me to return to graduate school and take on the role of researcher to learn more about families. Father engagement became my primary focus over the years as there is such little research dedicated to the role of fathers and their engagement with schools. It has been a somewhat lonely journey until recently. The recent surge of interest in fathers has elevated the work of many practitioners and researchers across the globe. No longer does it feel like we are doing this on our own, and we are finally connecting to share knowledge, efforts, and ideas.

For that reason, I admire the efforts of The National Alliance for Father Friendly Schools and its commitment to advancing fathers and father engagement. The organization's vision of connecting individuals and sharing father-friendly practices is what we need to make schools and communities more inclusive of fathers. Fatherhood has evolved in remarkable ways, yet our attitudes and practices remain stagnant. We must continue to remind schools and communities that fathers and father-like figures are often marginalized by school practices, and we are missing out on the many talents and skills that fathers have to offer. To care about students means we must care about fathers.

I celebrate and support the work of the National Alliance for Father Friendly Schools, as they encourage schools and school districts to create welcoming schools for fathers. I also appreciate the organization's commitment to viewing fatherhood holistically and recognizing various male caregivers who support the growth and development of children.

I am proud to join The National Alliance for Father Friendly Schools in working with other fatherhood organizations, school districts, schools, parent organizations and others. As Alliance members, we believe in the power of family engagement in schools especially those that are specifically inclusive of fathers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kyle Miller".

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