



## Tips for High School Freshman

- ① **Help Your Child Get Organized.** Make sure your child has the necessary classroom materials such as an agenda book, pens, pencils, paper, binders, calculator, etc. One of the most important items that will help your child get organized is an agenda. These can be purchased at most retail stores.
- ② **Establish Daily Routines.** This tip is easier said than done, but establishing daily routines such as meals, homework time, bedtime, etc. help students with time management. This can be challenging when your child is involved in extracurricular activities, so there are times when routines must be altered.
- ③ **Encourage Your Child to Be a Self-Advocate.** If your child has a question about something covered in class, hold your child accountable for asking. It's ok to be involved and communicate with teachers, but the more your child learns to be a self-advocate, the better prepared your child will be for college.
- ④ **Check Your Child's Grades Weekly & Give Feedback.** If you have not already set up an account with Parent Connect, the form can be retrieved from the Guidance Office. Return the form to the Guidance Office so that an account can be set up. Give your child feedback on his or her progress and use this information to set goals for each grading period.
- ⑤ **Encourage Your Child to Get Involved in at Least One Extracurricular Activity or Club.** Involvement in school activities enables students to develop a sense of school pride and ownership. Friendships are established, and students feel a sense of community by getting involved.
- ⑥ **Discuss Career Options with Your Child.** Many high school freshmen have no idea what they want to do after graduation. Observe your child's strengths and weaknesses and talk about the possibilities. Explore the elective focus areas offered at your child's high school and talk to the school counselor about these opportunities.
- ⑦ **Know That There is Always Homework to Do.** If your child does not appear to have anything to do at homework time, email the teacher for dates on projects, tests, homework, etc. If nothing else, your child can read during homework time. When checking grades, look to see whether or not your child is turning in his or her homework.
- ⑧ **Make Sure Your Child Arrives On Time Each Day.** Minutes missed in class can add up to days. Not only does your child miss out on information covered in class, but the rest of the class is interrupted when your child enters the classroom late.
- ⑨ **Post a Copy of the School Calendar in Your Home or Office.** Knowing essential dates such as grading periods, holidays, testing, etc. are important in planning.
- ⑩ **Know What Your Kids are Doing and the Types of Friends They Associate With.** Teenagers can often get caught up in disputes that interfere with their learning. Know who your children are spending time with and get to know their families. Peer groups can make or break kids. Encourage your kids to avoid drama that would interrupt their success. Sometimes being "nosy" is good for your child. They will thank you for it one day