

Supporting Your Child on the Journey to Academic Success

Families play a critical role in educating their children. By being involved in your student's learning shows them that you care. This initial involvement will guide your child into structuring their own study habits and aid them in being a self-sufficient learner. If children know that their parents value education and that homework is important a consistent message is sent from both home and school. It is this collaborative effort that encourages student achievement. The following guidelines are designed to help you as a parent become active in your students learning. In turn, as students master these life skills, they will gain the self-efficiency that leads to increased success in school.

“Why do I have to do my homework?” Share these reasons with your student:

- It puts what they are learning in the classroom into practice.
- Helps establish study habits that will be critical for elementary, middle, and high school.
- Aids in reducing anxiety around school.
- Student starts to feel comfortable and confident with learning.
- Allows a student to feel accomplishment, a sense of progress, and pride.

How parents can help foster a positive learning environment:

1. Be available and involved.
2. Understand your student's learning style.
3. Aid your student in using their planner and creating a study schedule.
4. Facilitate the selection of a good study location.
5. Provide supplies and needed resources.
6. Support your student in getting started on their homework. Aid them in recognizing where to begin, how to pace and prioritize.
7. Review and discuss their completed homework assignments along with those returned by the teacher.
8. Help your student review and study for tests.
9. Aid your student in creating strategies for organizing schoolwork and processing information.
10. Encourage activities that support learning, for example, educational games, library visits, walks in the neighborhood, trips to the zoo or museums, and chores that teach a sense of responsibility.
11. Ask about your school's homework policy and how much homework to expect each night.
12. Praise and celebrate with your child over their achievements.