

Kent City High School

Tips for Freshman Parents

Most of you have now realized that parenting is a forever changing, never ending process. Though it can be challenging at times, it is truly an opportunity that you have been blessed with. At best, it is a trial and error process infused with a little common sense and luck. However, we would like to share some things that we see better-adjusted students having in common. So, here are some tips that we recommend for success:

- **Be involved in your child's education.** Attend as many of your child's activities as possible. Attend orientations, athletic contests, parent teacher conferences, extra-curricular activities and any other programs offered during the year. E-mail or call your child's teachers with academic concerns or questions. Teachers and staff are here to help you with your child's success in school. Check grades and attendance daily on Infinite Campus. Daily announcements can also be found at kentcityschools.org
- **Know your child's friends.** The transition from middle to high school can often mean an increase in your child's network of friends. If you don't know where your child is going, or who he/she is meeting, ASK!
- **Be sure your child is in school every day.** When students are absent, they are missing out on learning opportunities. If you know your child is going to be absent ahead of time, contact the attendance office (678-4210) and remind him/her to get his/her assignments in advance. Always call the attendance office on the day your child is absent.
- **Encourage your child to get involved.** Studies show that involved students on average are more successful students. Encourage your child to join a club, sport, play, music activity, etc. and then support him/her by attending his/her activities.
- **Set goals.** Discuss with your child his/her goals, both academically and personally. Make sure the goals are realistic.
- **Help develop good study habits and organizational skills.** Provide your child a quiet place to study. Encourage a set amount of time to spend on school work each evening. Expect the use of a planner whether on paper or digital (Google calendar). Always review homework assignments and check for completion.
- **Find a balance.** High school students can easily get caught up in the social aspects of school. Closely monitor the amount of time spent on the phone, on the computer, watching TV and hanging out with friends.
- **Being a student is a full-time job.** Remind students that their studies are their full-time job at this point in their life. Being successful at this job can lead to better job opportunities later in life 😊
- **A good night's sleep.** Set curfews and bed times for school nights and weekend nights. Studies have shown that Internet usage and phone calls late into the night interferes with concentration the next day.
- **Communication/support.** Remain interested and positive about your school. A parent's positive attitude will help your child's transition be a successful one. Ask questions, and more importantly, listen. Let your child know that you will always be there for him/her when, and if, things go wrong.
- **Counseling.** You can always call the Counseling office (678-4210) for support if needed.