

**Is Your Middle School Student Achieving at Grade Level?
Parenting Teens Just Got Easier!**
is a free monthly eZine for parents of pre-teens and teens
From Saso Seminars - by Patt and Steve Saso

Parenting Tip This Month: Did you know that only one-third of all graduating 8th graders are at grade level? Learn how to help your child avoid the academic backslide.

Please pass on *Parenting Teens* to those in your network. To leave list or change email address, scroll to bottom.

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Announcement Hot Links
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**NEW web site!
Saso High School Prep**

- High school assessments
- HSPT® summer workshops
- Essay writing workshops

<http://www.sasohighschoolprep.com/>

Scheduling Parenting Seminars

We are now scheduling for next school year. Mention this email and get \$300 off. This is a time-limited offer through August.

<http://www.sasoseminars.com>

Relationship Coaching

Coaching is designed to heal misunderstandings, build bridges and strengthen relationships.

<http://www.sasoseminars.com/coaching.html>

Inviting New Subscribers:

Subscribers receive a FREE 12 page report on "Giving Kids What They Need to Succeed" based on a ten year research project conducted by the Search Institute.

<http://www.sasoseminars.com/freestuff.html>

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June 2008 Featured Article
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Is Your Middle School Student Achieving at Grade Level?

By Patt Saso
www.SasoSeminars.com

A recent study by the Rand Corporation found that only one-third of graduating 8th graders achieve proficiency in the core subjects arithmetic, science and or reading (<http://rand.org/news/press.04/03.09b.html>).

Shocked? You might be surprised to learn that it isn't always about academics.

Don't be too quick to blame your child.

Switching from elementary to middle school when puberty is kicking in is rough on most children.

Preteen bodies change rapidly – mentally, emotionally and physically. The onset of adolescence can wreck havoc on even the most stable child. One minute you have a loving, huggable son and before your eyes he morphs into the Hulk.

The middle school challenge

In the immediacy of raging hormones and mood swings kids are thrust into a new learning environment. Navigating multiple classrooms and teachers, larger classes and peer pressure puts them at risk to becoming overwhelmed. Grades may drop as a result of needing to shut down.

Is your child making the grade?

Despite what most parents think grades are not always the best indicator of whether your child is at grade level.

Take Marianne. Mr. Saso taught her 7th grader in math and English last summer and found Tyler lacking basic skills.

"How could he not be at grade level? He is getting all A's in math at school!"

Sometimes grades do not tell the whole story.

Students who work hard, complete all assignments and understand current concepts being tested, may earn good grades, but still not be at grade level. Core skills are not solidified.

The danger of missing basics in math and English is that skills build on each other.

Be informed about summer learning loss.

Additionally, no parent wants to think about the negative

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impact summer might have on their child's academic edge.

Research uncovers that on average students lose one month's worth of instruction during summer break. A good summer program can help.

What can parents do to curtail the academic backslide?

1. Educate yourself. Understand adolescent development.

Need help? Read *Ten Best Gifts for Your Teen* or listen to our parenting CDs www.SasoSeminars.com/tools

2. Normalize puberty. Inform your child what to expect during the onset of adolescence and the challenges they may face regarding their changing bodies, mood swings, middle school, peer pressure, and studies.

3. Keep lines of communication open. Be your child's ally during this stressful transition.

4. Take into consideration standardized test scores. Don't use grades as the only measure that your child is at grade level. In California the Department of Education has a detailed explanation of standards at www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss

5. Find a summer school program that reinforces basic building blocks in math & English. Check out our programs.

6. When in doubt, have your student tested. Saso High School Prep offers an assessment in math and English.

<http://www.sasohighschoolprep.com/>

Announcing Saso High School Prep (SASO)

Steve Saso is retiring after thirty-six years of teaching high school, but will continue to prepare students for high school through the tutoring program he developed over eighteen years ago.

Mr. Saso understands that high-quality math & English programs are essential for all students. Education provides students with the opportunity to choose among a full range of future career paths.

SASO is committed to helping students learn, achieve and succeed.

Hear about Jeanette Chavez's experience.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!!! My son took

your HSPT summer seminar.

Not only was he accepted into the school of his dreams but his school grades have risen immensely! His teachers are amazed at the turn around in his study habits and attitude toward school.

I am quoting one of his teachers by saying, "He's a completely different kid!"

I can never thank you enough for making this course available and making these changes in his study habits and school attitude possible!!

I HIGHLY recommend your program!

Thanks and please pass this information on to others.

Contact Steve Saso at 408.821.4790 or visit

<http://SasoHighSchoolPrep.com>

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For More Parenting Tips

<http://www.sasoseminars.com/tools.html>
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Need help understanding adolescent developmental issues? Every parent needs a little help every once in awhile. That's why we are committed to developing quality books & CD's to lend a hand.

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Saso High School Prep

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High school assessments

Find out where your son or daughter is against the standards.

Mastering the skill of essay writing

Learn to experience the true power of the pen! Writing helps you to think more clearly and improves your ability to learn.

HSPT® summer workshops

Does your student want to attend a Catholic high school?

<http://www.sasohighschoolprep.com>

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Until next time,

Patt & Steve Saso
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Subscribe Free:

<http://www.sasoseminars.com/freestuff.html>

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