

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

September Issue 2007 – Helping Your Tween & Teen Succeed in School

Parenting Tip This Month: How parents can be effective academic coaches to their children and why it's important to do so.

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Announcement Hot Links
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Saso High School Prep: Fall Programs 7 – 9th grade

Proven programs in math and English designed to build academic confidence for high school and beyond.

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

Scheduling a Parenting Seminar: call now

"You folks took the roof off last night! Everyone was enraptured by your enthusiasm, expertise, honesty and comprehensive tools you shared. The stories and anecdotes really brought the information home and reinforced that our lives are not unique or alone."

-- Leianne Wong Lamb, Commonwealth Club of CA, Silicon Valley - San Francisco

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

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As a parent, you are the gatekeeper of your child's education. What you do today influences your child's future.

Parents of high school students might ask:

*What if my daughter doesn't get good grades?
What if my son doesn't get involved in any activities?
When do I intervene, or should I leave my teenager alone to figure things out?*

Parents of elementary school kids ask:

*How much do I help with my child's homework?
What should I expect with regard to my child's grades?
How do I handle a poor attitude toward learning?*

For questions like these each child and situation has a unique answer.

However, one basic rule holds true.

The more involved a parent is in his or her child's education, the greater the chances of that child's success in school.

Participation that actually draws parents into the school is most influential, like attending school programs, extracurricular activities, teacher conferences, and back to school nights.

When parents take the time to attend a school function they send a strong message about the value of education.

4 Easy Steps parents can take to get more involved with their child's education:

1) Attend back to school night and other school functions.

Go to your school's Open House, parent-teacher conferences, as well as school plays, speech tournaments, and athletic events. Get involved with the school.

2) Get to know your child's teachers.

Start when your child is in elementary school and continue this in high school.

Establish a working relationship with teachers.

Mary attended Back to School Night and introduced herself to each of her daughter's teachers. Later she followed up with an e-mail saying hello and expressed interest in staying involved, but not intrusive. When her daughter began to slip, the teacher contacted the mother immediately. Since the relationship had already been established, the teacher was inclined to contact her when a problem arose.

3) Become an academic coach.

Participate in your child's homework. Most elementary school kids respond well to having their parents give them a spelling test, quiz them on vocabulary words, or work with them with their multiplication flash cards.

It is a myth that teens no longer want help with homework.

Some ways parents can help: working on algebra problems, helping to formulate a good topic sentence for an essay, or quizzing them on history facts.

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Sometimes it is more suitable for the parent and the student if a third party steps in to coach.

We can help your child succeed academically.

This is a service we offer whether your student enters Saso High School Prep (SHSP) for remediation, enrichment or acceleration.

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

4) Work with your student, but don't do the work for them.

Mike didn't like how his sixth grade son was performing on a school project, so he helped by doing the work for him. His son received a good grade. However, when he reached high school he did poorly. The son had not developed the academic skills needed for success because the father had done the work for him.

Students who complete SHSP programs report earning better grades in school.

Remember that a parent's attitude about the value of education has a strong influence on the child's academic success. Stay involved by becoming an academic coach.

For more resources visit:

<http://www.sasoseminars.com>

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Saso High School Prep (SHSP)

Our High School Placement Test prep courses offer more than getting accepted into a Catholic high school. They offer life learning. Each student is individually challenged to master the material.

Students who complete our programs report feeling more confident and motivated because they have the tools they need to succeed academically.

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

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Until next time,

Patt & Steve Saso

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