

PARENTING STUDENTS THROUGH ONLINE LEARNING

Here are four ways parents can help their child succeed in an online school setting:

STAY INVOLVED

Just as traditional schools hold parent-teacher conferences and open houses, many online programs also have methods in place for parents to easily engage with teachers.

While schools are virtual in Wauwatosa, teachers are available by email and videoconferencing from 8:00 am to 3:00 each day school is in session. Parents are also encouraged to check in periodically under their child's email, Infinite Campus and Google Classroom to review:

- Course materials
- Grades
- Instructor announcements
- Assignment feedback

Staying involved will show your child that you have an interest in their education, which can directly impact their success by boosting their self-confidence.

STRUCTURE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IN THE HOME

Since your child won't be in a typical school setting, they'll need an area of their own where they can focus on their coursework and study without any distractions. Help them create their own unique space by providing:

- **EQUIPMENT:** This includes charged chromebook, internet access, and a means of organizing (planner, paper, app). If you need assistance with internet access,
- **DISTRACTION-FREE SPACE:** Avoid setting up the space in a high-traffic or loud area of the house, like the kitchen. Have the space stay the same to reinforce the habit of learning there.
- **STRUCTURED TIMES FOR WORK:** Particularly if your home is smaller or you have more than one student at home, allow them to select time frames at home where technology is off so they can focus.

ORGANIZE

Help your students create an organizational system and have them work on school every day. Here are different ideas for organization (let your student pick what works for them):

- Create a folder for each course in your google email and drag communication to that folder.
- Write down all assignments on paper or app and cross off as you do them.
- Bookmark sites that you often use in your research for you don't have to find them each time you need them.
- Do your work in order of the hours in your day. Work on 1st hour, 2nd hour, ..
- Create online study groups with others in your class or subject area.

GET UP AND MOVE

- Remind your student to get up and move to keep their focus active.
- Creating a schedule of specific break times so they can come back with a clearer mind.
- Go outside. Just mind the social distancing.