

Organizational Skills

For many students, it will be the first time they have had several different teachers - each with a different style and set of expectations. Help your child create a system for keeping backpack and notebooks organized starting the first day of school. Everything in the backpack should have a specific place it is kept. The use of dividers in notebooks will enable a child to find papers quickly and easily. It is critical that your student gets in the habit of putting every paper in its proper place right away. If your child knows you will check his/her notebook(s) and backpack every night, it will train him/her to keep organized on a daily basis. Have your child write all assignments and due dates in the assignment notebook for every class every day. Check the assignment notebook daily to make sure every class is filled in. Set up a regular weekly study schedule. Set aside 7-10 hours per week, scheduling breaks if needed. (Be specific. Ex: Mondays 3:30-5:00 pm.)

Communication Self-Advocacy Skills

It is important for students to begin to feel comfortable asking questions if they do not understand something or need help. This may include getting clarification on the homework or asking a teacher why he/she got a certain grade on an assignment. Although it can be frightening for students at first, the more they ask, the more comfortable they will feel advocating for themselves. Typically the best time to ask is before or after the class bell rings or before or after school. Follow up with your child to make sure the problem is taken care of. After allowing your child to handle the situation and you are not satisfied with the result, it may be time for you to make contact with the teacher.

Expectations

Students

- Be present, on time, and prepared for class
- Be considerate, courteous, and respectful
- Follow classroom and school rules
- Complete assignments to the best of his/her ability
- Use computers in an appropriate manner as defined in the User Agreement
- Show respect for school property and the property of others
- Bring problems and concerns to the attention of an adult

Parents

- Help your child set goals
- Attend parent/teacher conferences
- Communicate with teachers as needed
- Monitor your child's progress through Infinite Campus
- Ensure that your child attends school regularly and is punctual
- Provide a quiet place of study that is free of distractions
- Talk with your child regularly about school and other activities
- Encourage your child to become involved in activities/community service

Teachers

- Plan instruction and design learning experiences for all students
- Review rules, procedures, and expectations outlined on the syllabus
- Provide appropriate homework assignments that will reinforce classroom instruction
- Engage students in their own learning and progress
- Provide a safe and positive atmosphere for learning
- Maintain timely communication with parents about their child's progress
- Provide assistance to parents to help support their child's learning



Helping Your Child Succeed in School

Students, parents, and teachers are all necessary links in a positive learning experience. It is important that schools form partnerships with parents to promote the social, emotional, and academic growth of children. Children benefit greatly from supportive relationships at home and at school. Research shows that family involvement in education makes a positive difference. You can make a significant difference in your child's achievement at school and in life. Parents are their children's first teachers. You provide the foundation upon which all learning is built. We must invest time in helping our children grow into citizens who live a life of purpose. Together we can help our children succeed.



www.nbboxcellence.org

Tips to Polish Your Study & Test Taking Skills

Parents

- Make sure that your child does all their homework and reading assignments in preparation for the test.
- Mark down test days on your calendar so you and your child are both aware of testing dates.
- Encourage your child to space out their studying and homework assignments so that they won't be forced to cram on the night before the test.
- Make sure that your child gets enough sleep on the night before the test.
- Ensure that your child eats a healthy breakfast and avoid heavy foods that may make him/her groggy.
- Make sure that your child gets up early enough so that he/she will be on time to school.
- If your child is struggling on their tests, talk to them about it and meet with their teacher to find out the best way to help your child.
- Review the test with your child after they have taken it and go over any mistakes they have made and how they can improve for the next test.

Students

- Put the main ideas/information/formulas onto a sheet that can be quickly reviewed.
- Read all the choices before choosing your answer.
- Do not keep changing your answer, usually your first choice is the right one.
- Make an outline before writing your essay.
- Try not to leave an answer blank, show your work/write down your thoughts. Even if you do not get the exact answer, partial credit is usually awarded.
- If you do not know the answer, come back to it after you finish the rest of the test and make an educated guess. Other parts of the test may give you clues to what the answer may be.
- When you first receive your test, do a quick survey of the entire test so that you know how to efficiently budget your time.
- Write down important formulas, facts, definitions and/or keywords in the margin first so you do not worry about forgetting them.
- Do the simple questions first to help build up your confidence for the harder questions.
- Do not worry about how fast other people finish their test, just concentrate on your own test.

Stay Informed Stay Involved

It is important for both students and parents to know what is happening at Eisenhower Middle/High School. The best way to stay informed is through the school website found at www.nbexcellence.org.

Infinite Campus is a web-based program in which students and parents can access instant information such as announcements, class schedules, grades, assignments, attendance, fines and fees, course registrations for next year, and report cards. E-mail hyperlinks are provided to help facilitate communication with classroom teachers. You can obtain an activation key from the school office to setup your parent portal account.

Talk to your child about the dangers of drinking alcohol, smoking, and using drugs. Also, keep the computer in a location where your child's Internet use can be monitored. While the Internet is a wonderful source for information, if used improperly, it can be very harmful.

Know your child's friends, know what your child is doing, and know where your child is going. If your instincts tell you that your child is involved in an activity that is harmful, listen to your instincts, and take the appropriate action.

Studies have shown that academically successful students are more likely to be involved in co-curricular activities such as clubs or sports. Encourage your child to find an activity that he/she enjoys.

Parents who are actively involved in their child's education and/or co-curricular activities have children who are more likely to be academically successful. Teaching your child the skills needed to be successful, as discussed in this brochure is a major step in that direction.