

**FEBRUARY FOR FAMILIES OF 7THGRADE STUDENTS**

**NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE**

High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

**Did You Know?**

**Friends Matter**

Who your child hangs out with matters when it comes to academics and college-going attitudes. It’s probably no surprise that teenagers value their peers’ opinion more than those of their parents. Having a group of friends who plan to attend college is more influential on college-going rates than parental encouragement.

* The American Council on Education reports that **students are four times more likely to enroll in college if a majority of their friends also plan to attend**.
* Another study has shown that social network influences a student's academic achievement. **A student whose friends have good grades is more likely to have good grades, too.**
* Peer tutoring and mentoring can also positively affect academic achievement. One study showed that **students who take part in peer mentoring or tutoring reported improvements in test scores, grade point averages (GPAs), and course pass rates**.

School Contact Information:Click here to enter text.

Personnel: Click here to enter text.

Tutoring Center: Click here to enter text.

Insert School Logo

Students who participate in extracurricular activities are more likely to have a higher GPA, have better attendance, and expect to earn a bachelor’s degree.

16

Looking to the future

Help your child focus on preparing academically for high

school and college. Encourage your child to take challenging

classes. You may want to ask your child’s teachers these

questions:

a

Will the classes your child takes help him or her be

competitive in college and the work world?

a

Is your child having trouble in any classes?

a

What tutoring programs are available?

**Upcoming Events & Announcements**

* Click here to enter text.

**Myth Buster**

**Student Checklist**

* **Get involved!** Try out for a sports team, volunteer, or join a club.
* **Talk with friends and family** about your interests, careers, and possible college choices.
* **Take advantage of every opportunity to participate in enrichment programs** (on the weekend or in the summer) and field trips.

**Family Checklist**

* **Encourage your child to get involved in school and community.** Suggest sports, school clubs, or volunteer opportunities that reflect your child’s interests – it doesn’t matter what it is, it’s just important to be involved!
* **Get to know your child’s friends and their parents.** Know who your teen is spending time with and take advantage of opportunities to meet friends and their parents at school or community events.
* **Encourage your children to take the most challenging courses they can handle.** Tackling tough courses can give them confidence and prepare them for higher-level high school classes.

**MYTH:** Teens value the opinions of their peers, so parents cannot influence them.

**REALITY**: Families have a strong influence in their child’s planning and decision-making for high school and beyond.

Families can influence their child by setting high expectations and through encouragement and motivation.

For example, when families show that they believe their children are capable of high achievement, their children are more likely to set high goals, work hard, and persist in the face of challenges.

When families place a strong value on learning and hard work, children are more likely to be successful.