

Tips for Parents and Students for Middle School Success

For students going into middle school, there are many new challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities. Please review these tips to promote success at middle school.

1. It's normal to feel anxious about your child going to middle school.

Talk about the middle school experience in a positive way! Your enthusiasm and support can help make this BIG change in your child's school life a positive one.

2. Help your child develop an organizational strategy.

- Help your child acquire the necessary folders and binders to stay organized.
- Conduct a weekly binder/backpack clean out.
- Check your student's planner daily.
- Designate a study space and set a consistent study time.
- Prepare for the week/day ahead and create a family calendar to model planning.
- Help your child create a routine of checking Skyward.
- Ask for resource support as needed.

3. Utilize Stevens Middle School's resources.

- Explore Steven's website with your child. <https://stevens.portangelesschools.org/>
- Review our Steven's school supply list linked on our website.
- Check Skyward for grades and attendance.
- Look for newsletters and other school communications in your email.

4. Talk about social skills.

- Talk with your student about traits that make a good friend and ways to make new friends.
- Discuss how to use the internet safely.
- Practice skills needed for difficult social situations.

5. Openly communicate with your child.

Keep the lines of communication open between your child and school staff. Be informed, listen, and talk to your child. If any concerns come up, please contact the office so we can assist.

6. Get involved as a parent.

- Attend parent-teacher nights, open houses, PTO meetings and/or other events where you can connect with your student's teachers and our school.
- Check Skyward frequently and reach out directly to teachers when you have concerns.

7. Encourage your child to get involved in school activities!

Encourage them to join a team, club, or other extra-curricular activity.

8. Help your child advocate for themselves.

Encourage your child to discuss problems and solutions with teachers on their own, and be ready to help as needed. If a problem arises in a particular class, contact the teacher directly. Contact our School Counselors with family or social concerns. Your role as a parent changes too; remember to listen and act as a guide as your student grows in their independence and responsibilities.

Go Stampedeers!