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Vale middle school athletics

The transition from high school to high school means a pretty exciting time in the life of the child and the parent. But it can also be scary. It's not just moving to another school. The start of high school can be overwhelming and confusing, and not just because the buildings are physically larger and the campus is unknown. Children leaving high school bubble for jungle high school not only have to deal with new teachers and academic requirements, but also a completely different set of students, some of whom are three years older and much more mature. Moving to high school can be disastrous if a child doesn't make the transition smoothly - more children fail ninth grade than any other class [source: Weber]. Most school systems pave the way by introducing transitional programs that can cover everything from campus visits to shading students, but it's never easy. Our list of the top 10 differences between middle and high school will help you identify some pitfalls you may encounter as your child enters ninth grade – how does what happens when your trombone-playing math whiz finds that band practice at odds with calculus? We hope you'll find some advice that gets you through this often crazy time. Content One of the scariest things about moving from high school to high school is often a dramatic increase in school size. It's daubbing enough to make the transition from a three-class school to a four-class school - and then on top of that, several high schools from one district often dump into one high school. So there could easily be four times as many children in high school, most of whom will be absolute strangers. As the first day of ninth grade looms, it can be astounding to imagine entering a completely unknown (and much larger) campus and walking around in a sea of new faces. Most high schools are pretty attentive about mitigating the transition, but it's not hard to see how children can get lost in the shuffle. A larger student body leads to another item on our list... Advertising We know that high schools have higher enrollments than high schools, so that means individual classes are going to swell, too. Student-teacher ratios vary considerably from country to country, but in general secondary grades are larger than secondary school grades. Maybe it's not a lot, but it's a difference. The jump from a 15-student class to one with 20 children doesn't seem to be a huge deal, but it does result in things feeling a little more impersonal and less one-on-one interaction with the teacher. There's certainly a lot less hand-holding in high school - older kids are expected to be more accountable and independent, so (in theory) they don't need as much attention from their teachers. And a child who is not fully prepared for this task may end up. falling through the cracks. Advertising Eighth-grade teachers seem to spend a huge amount of time trying to make it clear to their students (or trying to scare their students, but want to look at it) that there will be a lot more homework in high school. And they do it for a reason: There's a lot more homework in high school. Children who are not ready for it may be in for a nasty shock during the first month or so of ninth grade. Increased workload - combined with stress from new environments, schedules, expectations, teachers and classmates - can really throw some kids on the loop, so it's especially important that parents take on their game during this transition period. Advertising eighth grade - especially the last couple of months - is a dizzying time for some kids. They're the oldest (and therefore the best) in school, and they take any opportunity to master this fact over anyone they consider to be below them (that's, like, you know, everyone). But when September rolls around, they find out pretty quickly how demoralizing it can be to fall from the head pack to the bottom of the barrel. For this and other reasons why we have just discussed, many children find themselves in ninth grade. Some schools have tried to combat this phenomenon by separating freshman from the crowd just a little bit - they institute ninth-grade academies or smaller class sizes to keep some of that high-school feeling for a while longer. Advertising In most high schools, with their emphasis on community-building and student care, children don't have much choice in what classes they take. Students may be headed to different groups based on skill levels, but in general, there is little variation in the courses. Sixth grade is American history, seventh grade is pre-algebra, and that's about it. High school is a brand new ballerina, with seemingly endless choices - which is exciting, of course, but it can be overwhelming. And planning is always difficult, too: What happens when your trombone-playing child is also a mathematical whizz, and advanced trigonometry is at the same time as band practice? Or if physics is contrary to French? It may not be an easy answer or a quick fix, but if parents, teachers and counselors work together, they can create a balanced schedule. Advertising you might think that as academic and sporting demands increase in high school, so could the involvement of parents. After all, this is a critical time in your child's life - soon, flying with the squad, they'll never see it again. But you'd think wrong: Parental involvement actually declines during high school years. One reason is that colleges often don't court the involvement of parents as much as elementary and high schools do - it's just a more hands-off type of environment. Parents also routinely assume that their contributions are not needed so much children are older and more responsible. It's not like that. Many studies have shown that parental involvement is a major factor in their children's success. So go ahead and volunteer - your kids may be embarrassed to have you around, but it's for their own good. Advertising People often refer to high school as a bubble - students do their reading, writing and arithmetic, of course, but sometimes the process is highlighted more than the end result. Children learn about themselves, safe in their small community, and don't focus much on the outside world. But it all changes in high school. Suddenly, the goal is very clear: college. No more defrauding-- this is a real deal. Some students, for sure, are class-focused from day one, so this goal change can be exciting – finally, all those how to count for something! However, it can be warm for a child who may not be all that concerned with grades. So again, it's up to you parents - it's your job to remind the underperforming to step up to the plate. Advertising Poor Ninth Grader. As if they no longer have enough to manage, with stunning new environments, larger class sizes and increased academic demands, they also have to juggle more new teachers. In high school, kids probably have no more than two or three different teachers per day, but high school (as it does with everything) kicks that up a few notches. Now they could have six or seven teachers every day - all with their own methods, standards, workload, mood and idiosyncrasies. It's really not surprising that signs of decline and dropout rates are rising in ninth grade. So, even if you stay on top of your child's work and stamps, be sure to understand – this can be a difficult time. When they hit the 10th and 11th estues, they're not going to be Advertising Most of the changes we have discussed so far in this article have some ambivalence associated with them – the transition to high school is exciting and frightening. But sport is one part of high school life that can be parked right in an exciting place. Most high schools have sports teams, but they don't bring schools to life like college sports can. It's just like a switch in the spotlight with academics: Sure, high school sports are fun, but college football is the real deal. Even if your child is not an athlete. sporting events offer many opportunities for social interaction with new classmates. Also, the taste of the school spirit never hurts - it gives children the beginning of a new identity that can transition a little less painfully. You knew we'd get to this sooner or later, didn't you? Peer pressure besuches its ugly head pretty much in every child's life, but the stakes are certainly raised in high school. The pressure to drink and drugs will certainly shlow for some during school years, but children (and parents) soon realize that these fears are small potatoes compared to what lurks in high school. And it's not just about illegal substances. Succumbing to peer pressure can quickly derail an academic career, and this is a major factor in many blackout cases. As always, parents need to be vigilant and, most importantly, keep communication lines open. To learn more about the differences between secondary and secondary schools, see the links on the following page. Lawn mowers parents mow obstacles and hardships before their children can face them. HowStuffWorks talks to experts about the style of parenting. Bennett, Laurie J. and Mac Iver, Martha Abele. 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