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Eastwood middle school staff

The transition from secondary school to high school marks a rather exciting time in children's life. But it can also be scary. It's not just moving to another school- it's a whole new environment. 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 secondary school bubble for the jungle of high school have to not only cope 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 catastrophic 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 implementing transitional programs that can include everything from campus visits to student shadows, but that's never easy. Like when you're in ninth grade, what happens when you play a trombone mathematical witch that conflicts with a tetus? We hope you'll find some tips that will make you go through this often crazy time. Content One of the scariest things about moving from middle school to high school is often a dramatic increase in school size. And on top of that, several secondary schools in one district are often thrown into the same school. So there may be four times as many children in high school, most of whom will be complete strangers. As the first day of the ninth-grade looms, it can be astounding to imagine entering a completely unknown (and much larger) campus and walking around in the sea of new faces. Most high schools are quite careful about easing the transition, but it is not difficult to see how children can get lost in the shuffle. The larger student body leads to the next point on our list ... Advertising We know that high schools have higher enrollments than secondary schools, so it's obvious that individual classes will get bigger, too. The ratio between students and teachers varies greatly in the country, but in general, the classes in high school are larger than the middle classes. It may not be much, but it matters. The jump from class 15 students to one with 20 children doesn't seem like such a big deal, but it does lead to things that feel a little more impersonal and less one-on-one interaction with the teacher. There's definitely a lot less holding in high school - older kids are expected to be more responsible and independent, so they (in theory) don't need as much attention from their teachers. And a child who is not ready for the task may end, through the cracks. Advertising eighth-grade teachers seems to spend too much time trying to clarify to their students (or try to intimidate their students, as well as want to look at it), that there will be a lot more homework in high school. And they do this for a reason: There's a lot more homework in high school. Children who are not ready for this can be in for a bad shock in the first month or so of ninth grade. Increased workload - combined with the stress of new environments, schedules, expectations, teachers and classmates - can really throw some kids into a cycle, so it's especially important for parents to be at their game during this transition time. An 8th grade ad - especially in recent months - is time for some kids. They are the oldest (and hence the coolest) in the school and take the opportunity to overcome this fact over anyone they consider to be below them (this is, like, you know, everyone). But when September rolls, they discover pretty quickly how demoralizing it can be to tick off the head of the package to the bottom of the barrel. Because of this and the other reasons we discussed, many children end up in ninth grade. Some schools have tried to combat this phenomenon by separating freshmen from the crowd a little - they are introducing academies of 9th grade or smaller classes to maintain some of this middle school feeling for a while. Advertising in most secondary schools, with a focus on community-building and raising students, children don't get much choice in what classes they take. Students can be placed in different groups based on skill level, but in general, there are few variations in courses. Sixth grade is American history, seventh grade is betrayed, and that's it. High school is a whole new game, with seemingly endless choices - which is exciting, obviously, but it can be overwhelming. And the schedule is always difficult: What happens if your child playing trombone is also a mathematical faki, and advanced trigonometry is at the same time as the group? Or if physics conflicts with French? There may not be an easy answer or a quick answer, but if parents, teachers and counselors work together, they can create a balanced schedule. Advertising You might think that, as academic and athletic requirements increase in high school, so you can participate. After all, this is a critical moment in your child's life - very soon, they fly on coca, they will never be seen again. But you'd think wrong: Parent participation declined during high school years. One reason is that high schools often don't judge parental participation as much as primary and secondary schools - it's just a more repulsive kind of environment. Parents also often assume that their contributions are not as necessary as children are older and more responsible. It's not like that. Many studies have shown that parents' participation is a major factor in their children's success. So go and volunteer - your children may be ashamed to have you around, but it's for their own good. Ads People often call middle school a bubble - students do their reading, writing and arithmetic, of course, but sometimes the process is emphasized more than the end result. Children learn about themselves, probably in their own small community, and there is not much focus on the outside world. But all the changes in high school. Suddenly, the goal is very clear: college. As long as we hang out, that's the truth. Some students, for sure, have been focused on grades since day one, so this change in goals can be exciting - finally, all those who count for something! However, it can be a thirsty for a child, which may not be all that worries about grades. So again, it is up to you parents, - your job is to remind a subcontractor to stand in front of the plate. It's an advertisement for Poor Ninth Graders. As if they no longer have enough to manage, what with a huge new environment, a larger class and increased academic requirements, they also have to juggle a host of new teachers. At school, kids probably have a lot of two or three different teachers a day, but high school (as it does with everything) kicked it. Now, they can have six or seven teachers every day - all with their own methods, standards, works, moods and peculiarities. No wonder grades are shrinking and dropping out of ninth grade. So, even while you are at the top of your child's work and grades, be sure to understand - this can be a difficult period. Once they hit the 10th and 11th grades, you can break the whip. Advertising Most of the changes we have discussed so far in this article have some ambivalence attached to them - the transition to high school is exciting and frightening. But sport is part of a high school life that can be parked in the square in the exciting place. Most schools have sports teams, but they don't carry the school in their lives like high school students do. It's just like the key to focusing with academia: Surely, high school sports is fun, but a high school football game 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, which can make the transition a little less painful. Sooner or later, right? The pressure from his peers suppresses his ugly head quite early in every child's life, but the stakes are certainly rising in high school. The pressure to drink and make drugs certainly appears for some during but children (and parents) soon realize that these worries are small potatoes compared to what's in high school. It's not just about illegal substances - clothes, eating, cheating, that's all it is. As always, parents should be vigilant and, most importantly, keep lines of communication open. To learn more about the differences between middle and high school, check out the links on the next page. Lawnmower parents mow obstacles and difficulties before their children meet them. HowStuffWorks speaks to experts about the style of parenting. Bennett, Laurie J and Mac Iver, Martha Abele. Girls tend to stop; Boys told not to go back: Report on gender and the problem of dropping out in Colorado schools. October 2009 (Accessed September 10, 2010) Ray. The right kind of peer pressure. Slate, May 12, 2010 (Accessed September 10, 2010) Nancy B. and Irvine, Judith L. Transition from middle school to high school. National School Association Magazine, May 2000 (Access sept. 10, 2010) school center. Easing the transition to high school: research and best practices designed to support high school education. 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