



What is the Parents Role

In the College Planning and
Application Process?

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College

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My Favorite Parenting Resources

"Getting to the Heart of Parenting" - Paul Tripp
"Sacred Parenting" - Gary Thomas
"Shepherding a Child's Heart" - Tedd Tripp

Knowing Your Child

- Likes/Dislikes
- What are they passionate about?
- What are their gifts and what are they not good at?
- How do they spend their free time?
- Who are their friends?
- Their habits
- What bothers them?
- What makes them happy?
- What do they like/dislike to eat?
- What do they read?
- What music do they listen to?
- What do they think about God?

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Freshman Year

- Help them establish (or maintain) good time management, note taking and study skills
- Encourage them to get involved but not over involved
- Pray, encourage and get involved when necessary in their relationships with their friends
- Attend their events, games and performances
- Make your expectations clear
- Make *them* communicate with those in authority
- Provide opportunities for them to serve others
- Be familiar with what college will cost
- Start keeping track of awards, honors, achievements and co-curricular activities
- Give your input when it comes to course selection

Sophomore Year

- Understand where they are academically after freshman year is complete
- Begin to ask at appropriate times what they may prefer in a college they may want to attend
- Stop by and visit a college or two when taking a vacation or family trip
- Meet with Miss Pauley for 10th Grade Guidance Meeting
- Encourage them to stay focused especially when things get difficult
- Standardized testing. Establish a timeline. Begin prep if interested. Subject tests.
- Give your input when it comes to course selection

Junior Year

- Understand where they are academically after sophomore year
- Move forward and don't look back
- Ask what they are learning in Career Stewardship
- Check your/their Naviance account once a week
- Discuss your thoughts and listen to theirs on location, size, Christian/Non-Christian, etc.
- Discuss your thoughts and listen to theirs when it comes to what major they may want to pursue
- Meet with me for Junior College Planning meeting
- Visit colleges (Junior College Bus Tour)
- Help them make plans for taking the ACT/SAT

Senior Year

- Understand where they are academically after junior year (including AP test results)
- Meet with me before start of senior year
- Encourage your child to have 5-6 colleges they would like to apply to at the start of senior year
- Help them make plans for taking the ACT/SAT in the fall
- Communicate with them when the application deadlines are for the schools they are applying to
- Be knowledgeable of the different types of deadlines and ramifications of each (make a chart if helpful)
- Offer to visit any colleges they would like to visit (maybe for a 2nd time)

Senior Year (cont.)

- Make them complete their applications, write their essays and communicate with the colleges
- Make them request their transcripts in Naviance
- Make them follow up with the colleges they applied to make sure their file is complete (if there is any confusion they need to see me)
- Complete FAFSA
- Understand your Financial Aid Award letters from the colleges your child was accepted at
- Pray and be patient
- Let your child make the decision of where they will attend
- Celebrate with them

Paying for College

- Discuss with your child what you plan to pay toward their college education so that they know moving forward if certain colleges would/should not be affordable (beginning of 11th grade)
- Understand that you may start completing the FAFSA beginning October 1st (new in 2016)
- What is prior/prior year?
- Know if you will have to complete the CSS Profile
- Be wise with how much in loans you take out
- Encourage them to make their own money
- Teach them financial stewardship (credit, credit cards savings, loans, tithing)

Final Encouraging Thoughts

- Your children will fail...but that's okay!
- They do desire and need your support, love and encouragement
- You do have others (myself, teachers, administrators) who want to partner with you through this process
- Letter from parent who has been through the college planning and application process 6 times



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