



What to Do when your child is failing



Some key suggestions I have for academically struggling students are following:

1. **Use Family Access:** If you are a student or parent of a student at Bethel Junior High, I highly recommend to get signed up with family access to follow students, grades and attendance. You may sign up for family access in the ASB office. Students should have already been given their login and passwords through their advisory teacher.
2. **Use a planner:** I also recommend daily use of a planner for students. Parents should expect their child to bring home their planner nightly and review it with them.
3. **Designated regular homework time and place.** Have a nightly homework hour set for at least an hour nightly. If students do not bring work home, they can read a book. The idea is to develop a habit of studying. Make sure that there is a designated place in the home, well lit, with school supplies, and in an open area where they can be observed to do their work.
4. **Keep in weekly contact with teachers:** Email teachers if you have questions or concerned regarding your son or daughter's academic progress. Be sure to check out your teachers web pages for information on their classes and assignments.
5. **Check teachers and the school's websites regularly.** Often teachers have a syllabus, calendar, worksheets, study sheets, practice tests and important classroom information posted on their web pages.
6. **Be involved with school activities:** Join the PTA, go to school events, become a volunteer at school. Show your children you take and interest, support school and that school is important.
- 7 **Check your child's binder, notebook and backpack regularly.** Check your son or daughters backpack and binder for unfinished work, missing assignments and see that they stay organized. When you find unfinished work have them complete it.
8. **Research and visit subject and homework helping sites on the web.** I have listed homework helping websites on the links page, which can help students with their work. Do your own search to find sites designed to get kids back on track.
9. **Keep absences to a minimum.** Attendance is directly linked to grades. When a student missed key concepts its very difficult to catch up. Often the student
10. **Find a study buddy.** Help your son or daughter find a peer tutor from his or her class. You can also check if there is an advanced math student willing to help. The math teacher is a good person to get a recommendation from.
11. **Sit in on your son or daughters class.** Check with the teacher ahead of time to see if you can sit in on a class to observe and help your son or daughter. Check to see if they are engaged, asking questions and really trying to do the work.
12. **Schedule a conference.** If you have tried the above suggestions and things still are not improving, you can contact your son or daughters school Counselor to set up a staffing with teachers before or after school.