



# LEADING THE LEAP

EMPOWERING FAMILIES FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNEY

# TONIGHT'S JOURNEY

1. Welcome & The Leader's Vision
2. The Transition Roadmap
3. High School & Beyond
4. Tools for Parent-Leaders
5. Closing & Survey

## SECTION 1

# WELCOME & THE LEADER'S VISION

"The most important factor in your student's success is not their school — it's YOU."

### CHAT / VOICE PROMPT

"In one word — what is your greatest HOPE for your child in high school?"

## SECTION 2

# THE TRANSITION ROADMAP

### GPA Counts Now

Grades affect class rank, college eligibility & scholarships — every semester matters

### Independence Shift

Schools contact students directly — families must stay proactively engaged

### Workload Increases

6–8 classes, independent deadlines — coach habits, not just homework

### Emotional Stakes Rise

Peer pressure, identity, stress — your relationship is a protective factor

**POLL: Which shift feels like the biggest leadership opportunity for you as a parent/guardian?**

SECTION 3

# High School & Beyond

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
GPA baseline	PSAT prep	SAT/ACT	Applications
Course selection	Explore interests	AP/Dual enrollment	FAFSA opens Oct 1
Meet counselor	Build relationships	College research	Senior requirements
Explore clubs	Track credits	FAFSA prep	Celebrate!

**KEY FACT:** 9th grade GPA is the strongest single predictor of high school graduation. Make year one count.

**ACTION STEP:** Circle ONE key date on your calendar RIGHT NOW.

SECTION 4

# Tools for Parent-Leaders

## Student Portal

Check grades & attendance weekly.  
Know your login.

## Weekly Check-In

Ask: 'What are you working on this week?' Then listen.

## Counselor Relationship

Email in 9th grade. Request 1 meeting per semester.

## FAFSA Calendar

Opens Oct 1 of 12th grade. Build your FSA ID now.

## Explore Resources

College Greenlight, MyCAP, CareerOneStop — all free.

## The 3 Bs Framework

Behavior + Belonging + Benchmarks = on-track student

**SHARE:** What is ONE leadership action you will take this month for your student?

## SECTION 5

# YOU ARE THE LEAD.

## REFLECTION

*"I am the parent/guardian lead in this transition because..."*

You showed up. That is leadership.

You listened. That is advocacy.

You committed. That changes outcomes.