



# PARENT TIP SLIPS

## HELPING YOUR CHILD MAKE A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Encourage your child to take part in any summer programs that high schools offer for example “Moving On Up” or grade 9 information days
- Encourage your child to do a trial run (bus route or walking) to secondary school
- Trust the advice of educators – we want the best for your children too!
- In grade 9, courses are applied, academic locally developed or open. After grade 10, courses are destination-bound courses (apprenticeship, college, university or workplace)
- Make certain your child is selecting the correct type of program for their learning style and understands the pathway (university, college apprenticeship or work) for each course type. Follow advice of grade 8 teachers
- Attend secondary school information evenings
- Parents still need to ask questions in secondary school (check homework, agendas, school website and maintain contact with subject teachers)
- Establish routines at home - homework times, consistent place in which to work, the proper tools
- Stay involved with children - ask questions about teams, clubs, homework, friends, teachers and classes
- Use grade 9 agenda as a communication tool between home and school
- Have realistic academic expectations for your child
- Come to concerts, games, interviews - continue to be a hands-on parent in secondary school
- Yes, they do have homework!
- Be honest about your child’s strengths and needs
- Provide all relevant documentation to ensure successful programming – psychology reports, speech and language reports, medical information
- Changes can be made in secondary school – lifelong plans do not have to be made in grade 9
- Be involved without being “helicopter parents” – let your child experience consequences
- Ask for clarification from the school or your child if you don’t understand something

Developed by: Rebecca Forte and Sue Bryer