Ways Parents can Support Learning

As the school year begins again it is important to remember how much you matter. While making sure your child has a healthy breakfast and a good night’s rest are key components of success, your help and support in their education is just as important. It has been proven time and time again that a parent who takes an active interest in their child’s education is one of the biggest contributors to that child reaching their full academic potential. Parents and teachers are truly partners, and when they work in conjunction with one another, they provide the greatest chance of academic success in a child. Here are a few things to keep in mind when thinking about how you can support your child’s teacher this year.

Be available. One of the biggest ways to support your child’s teacher is to simply keep in contact with them. Whether it is via telephone, e-mail, or face-to-face conversation - teachers appreciate when parents care enough to keep in contact. Aim to have a conversation with them once a month.

Stay Positive. Parents can sometimes carry the negative experiences they have had with education and unknowingly pass these feelings and attitudes onto their children. Regardless of whether you look back at your school experience fondly or look back and cringe, be sure to impress a positive attitude about school onto your child. For example, instead of saying, “Wake up! You have go to school today,” it may be better to say, “Wake up! You get to go to school today.” The positive outlook your child has on school and education prompts them to come to school ready and excited to learn.

Encourage learning at home. Whether learning about different cultures at the grocery store, calculating the tip at a restaurant, or discussing what they are working on in school, make learning a constant part of your child’s everyday life. The more your child practices these skills at home the better they will do in school!

Parent-Teacher Conference Information

Parent-teacher conferences are important for you to attend. It will allow you to see your child’s school and meet their teacher. You may get to see what your child will be working on this school year. In turn, you can build upon and reinforce that information at home with them. It will give you a chance for face to face communication with the members of your child’s educational team. We encourage you to visit your child’s school during their scheduled parent teacher conferences.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are held in November at each building level.
Guidance Contact Information

Our guidance counselors are available to help assist you with any questions you may have about your child's program or to help address your concerns. Our guidance counselor contact information is as follows:

**Wilson Borough and Avona Elementary:**
Mrs. Kristie Farkas
kfarkas@wilsonareasd.org

**Williams Township Elementary:**
Mrs. Phyllis Bolognini
pbolognini@wilsonareasd.org

**Wilson Area Intermediate:**
Mrs. Nicole Richards (gr 6,7,8)
nrichards@wilsonareasd.org
Mrs. Linda David (gr 5)
l david@wilsonareasd.org

**Wilson Area High School**
Mrs. Traci Knopf (A-L)
tknopf@wilsonareasd.org
Mrs. Meghann Moyer (M-Z)
mmoyer@wilsonareasd.org

**Wilson Area School District Social Worker**
Michele Hunsicker
mhunsicker@wilsonareasd.org

Skyward - Family Access

Parents are reminded to utilize Family Access in Skyward. The Family Access portal can be a great tool for keeping track of your student's progress from home. It will provide you access to grades, upcoming assignments, and teacher’s daily lesson plans. It also allows a feature for you to receive email notifications for missing assignments and grade updates. We highly encourage you to use the Family Access parent portal to help track your student’s progress. You will also be given the option at your child’s annual IEP meeting for the option to receive copies of paperwork via Skyward Family Access. For questions and concerns with Family Access you can call your child’s school or contact the Office of Student Services.

Pennsylvania Secondary Transition Guide

This website, which is continually updated, provides youth, young adults, parents, and professionals with secondary transition resources to facilitate a young person's progress towards post-secondary goals related to education, employment, and community living. Scroll through this homepage to find topics that are of interest to you.

To assist your use of the website, download the **Planning for the Future Checklist**. The checklist can guide your section of topics on the website to review (**Planning for the Future Checklist**).

Another spotlighted resource is **The Transition Discoveries Guide** which includes 9 research based indicators and 55 sub-indicators developed through the **Transition Discoveries Project**.

Each indicator includes definitions, characteristics, outcomes, and meaningful stories told by youth, families, and transition stakeholders.

Visit www.secondarytransition.org for more information.
Save The Date!

Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation Presents

The Wilson Area School District Fine Arts Showcase
Wednesday, February 13, 2019 ~ 7:00 p.m. at the State Theatre

Featuring:
Wilson Area High School Band
Wilson Area High School Chorus
Wilson Area High School Drama Club
Wilson Area High School Jazz Band
Wilson Area High School Wilsonaires
Wilson Area Intermediate School Band
Wilson Area Intermediate School Chorus
District Wide Fourth Grade Chorus
Special Guest Conductor: Bill Kurnow

Student Assistance Program

The District's Student Assistance Programs (SAP) are school wide intervention programs operated by trained teachers and staff to help identify and refer students who are experiencing behavioral, academic, or emotional problems affecting school or personal performance.

The teams provide assistance by gathering information which may identify students at risk for chemical or alcohol use, or for some other mental-health related concern. The District's SAP teams are committed to working with students and families to ensure early intervention for individuals experiencing problems.

When appropriate, SAP teams also refer students and families to community agencies for intervention. All information collected by District SAP teams is confidential. Referrals may come from teachers, administrators, support staff, friends, or parents who notice behaviors of concern. Forms are available in by contacting your child's school guidance office.

HELP!
Enter to learn... The Wilson Area School District will provide a safe environment and a variety of learning experiences that embrace diversity and allow all students to achieve to their fullest potential as responsible and productive citizens, who become life-long learners. The District and Community will work in partnership to prepare our students for tomorrow's challenges so that they may........ Go forth to serve.

In the Community: CIU20 Local Task Force

The Local Special Education Task Force serves as a resource for children with all disabilities and their families in 13 school districts in Monroe, Northampton, and parts of Pike County.

The role of the Local Special Education Task Force is to assist parents of students with special needs in understanding the laws/regulations that affect their rights and help develop an appropriate education for the student with special needs.

MEETING SCHEDULE:
The 2018-2019 Local Task Force meeting dates are as follows:
- Monday, September 17, 2018
- Monday, October 15, 2018
- Monday, November 19, 2018 (Snow Date Tuesday, November 20, 2018)
- Monday, January 7, 2019 (Snow Date Tuesday, January 8, 2019)
- Monday, March 11, 2019 (Snow Date Tuesday, March 12, 2019)
- Monday, May 6, 2019

All meetings are held at the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 office in Palmer Township in Easton from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.