

Top Ten Tips for Parents of Freshmen!

1. Know your child's School Counselor: In the Freshman Academy, there are four school counselors working exclusively with first-year freshmen. Our goal is to assist students in their academic, personal/social, and career/college domains. We believe this is a critical year as students transition to high school and establish skills for success; we want to play a role in that success.
2. ASPEN... Please be sure to log on regularly to check on your child's grades and assignments. Please be sure you have your PARENT account set up – it is different than your student's account! Grades are updated every week and if you check them, you and your child will never be surprised by their progress. Contact sis@pinkertonacademy.org if you are experiencing difficulties or need to set up a parent account.
3. The School Counseling page on the PA website and the Freshman Academy page on www.pinkertonacademy.org: Be sure to check it out! It is updated regularly and has a wealth of good info for you and your child.
4. Speaking of websites.... Please go to the Pinkerton home page at www.pinkertonacademy.org often. There are constant updates you'll want to know.
5. Communication: This is a biggie! If you have concerns about a class, please contact the teacher sooner rather than later. Email works best as teachers do not have phones in their rooms. Remember that although your child is in high school, they still need you to check in regularly, especially if you are not satisfied with their grades or behavior. When parents and teachers partner together, success is more reachable.
6. Involvement: We encourage students to be active in the school. Please encourage your child to join a couple of activities that are meaningful to them. The lists are included on the website under "Clubs and Activities." Involved students are more school-invested and being active in school-related activities is a great way to make new friends.
7. Administration: Please contact your child's administrator if you have questions concerning attendance or conduct. They are involved and very ready to help out. Their contact info is listed on the PA website.
8. Peer Relationships: Be involved and know who your child is associating with after school. While you can't pick your child's friends, you can steer them toward positive peer groups and oversee their activities. High school students still need consistent and caring parental guidance.
9. Read Tips for Success for Students and encourage your child to follow it! (Separate handout)
10. Smile! Enjoy these exciting high school years!