

The Secrets of Student Success: What Parents Need to Know

What are the “secrets” to student success? Interestingly enough, studies reveal that the majority of high-achieving students come from families who have the following four “secrets” in common.

They:

1. Establish daily family routines for:

- homework (time/space/supplies)
- reading (together and independently)
- hobbies
- bedtime
- household chores

2. Monitor out-of-school activities by:

- checking in by phone
- limiting television watching to less than 12 hours a week
- checking on the whereabouts of their children

3. Set age-appropriate and specific expectations concerning:

- school achievement
- behavior and manners
- work activities and ethics

4. Promote life long-long learning by:

- demonstrating an active interest in school, education and related activities
- recognizing and supporting their children’s talents and interests
- helping to investigate career possibilities
- reading, writing, and talking together
- expressing confidence in their children’s ability to be successful in life

It is especially interesting to note that these “secrets” of achievement involve actions and attitudes that *require little or no money at all*. The bottom line is this: what children need to be successful *inside* the classroom turns out to be the very same thing that they need to be successful *outside* of the classroom-- *caring and involved adults paying close attention*. There is no substitute for adult supervision and guidance. Go ahead, share these secrets. They don’t cost much and they work.