

# Assisting your Child at Perry Hall High in the 18-19 School Year!



Although high school students reportedly tell parents that they are seeking more independence, you still play an essential role in your teen's success. Parents should continue to stay informed, lend support and provide guidance as parental involvement is a key ingredient for academic success. Below you will find several important strategies to help your student get off to a strong start this school year.

- Keep informed! Update your information regarding phone numbers and emails so that we can contact you. Although the School Messenger system can be a bit much, it is our way to striving to keep you informed (and, unfortunately, the sender of the message is unable to see that two others were scheduled for the same time.) Additionally, our teachers want to keep you updated regarding your child's academic progress. It's important that you have your own BCPS One account, and that you check it regularly. If you struggle with learning how to use BCPS One, we have several methods to help you!
- Come to Parent University on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9 AM to Noon in the Perry Hall High School media center. (You would enter the doors by the flag pole.) Parent University will cover how to use BCPSOne including how to check your child's period by period attendance and grades. It also covers how to obtain help for your child at school, who to call, and resources the school has available for you and your teen as well as resources obtained through the community. Did you know there is a free homework hotline available for most subjects every day? We also have a college counselor who will help you and your teen navigate the path to college. Come to Parent University to learn how to access these resources and much more. (RSVP by emailing [kwatkins@bcps.org](mailto:kwatkins@bcps.org))
- Teens do better when their parents support their academic efforts. Come to Back-To-School night and attend Parent Conferences. Come to visit us during American Education Week. Your teen will tell you about the embarrassment they feel but, truly, most are happy to see their parents take notice of their world, including having lunch with them! Get to know our teachers, coaches, and entire school community. Do you struggle with time? Then consider visiting the school when you can make it or simply accessing our website at [perryhallhs.bcps.org](http://perryhallhs.bcps.org). Get involved. We have a strong PTSA that sends a newsletter every week. You should subscribe to get relevant and current information about what is happening at "The Hall." To subscribe, go to [www.phhsptsa.org](http://www.phhsptsa.org). (Consider joining the PTSA! They do a lot for our students and school!) Truly, we need you to partner with us to support your child! You are welcome and wanted here!
- Send your child to school ready to learn. Ensure they have supplies and lunch. (If your child qualifies for Free or Reduced Lunch, you must update information yearly. Apply online here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7stqzr> There is also affordable internet access for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.) Call your child's counselor if you are struggling to obtain anything for your child. We do not want any child to be feel left out in class or for school activities.
- Make time to talk about school. Teens are busy outside of the home! School, extracurricular activities, jobs, and peers. It is hard to stay connected, but you are their anchor in providing love, guidance, and support! Try to talk with your child every day, s/he knows that what goes on at school is important to you. If teens believe that parents are interested in their academic lives, they will take school more seriously. Ask open-ended questions that require more than a yes/no answer. Listen carefully, avoid multi-tasking and ensure your teen is actively talking with you rather than simply listening. Get to know your child's friends and their parents. When teens know they can openly talk with their parents, challenges can be easier to face.
- Take attendance seriously. It is the number 1 indicator of academic success. It is important that students arrive to school on time daily. Teens who are reluctant to attend often have reasons such as learning difficulties, social problems, or even health concerns. Call your child's administrator or counselor so we can strive to assist you and your child!

In a nutshell, we need our parents/guardians and, more importantly, so do our students! Your child is more likely to experience success if we work "Hall Together."