

**Tip #1**

Accept that “school” will be temporarily different. Much like a virus, attitudes are contagious. If we speak negatively about this, our students will catch the same attitude and use it as an excuse to not perform at their best. On the reverse, if we look at this as an opportunity to own our education as a personal challenge and view this as an opportunity to out-shine those less prepared, we will be in a much better place for success.

**Tip #2**

Establish structure and routine. We are creatures of habit and structure creates momentum. In school settings, bells ring to cue us to the next activity. Schedules provide daily structure. We sit in the same classroom chair or cafeteria table by nature, even if not assigned. We watch the clock and know what is next. Structure eliminates laziness and establishes momentum.

**Tip #3**

Get school supplies, even if they are collected from things around your house. Pencils, pens, outfits and colorful notebooks with stickers all create the feeling of having ownership in our learning. Don't skip the excitement!

**Tip #4**

Create a work space with their name on it. This could be a special corner of your home where your child “goes to work”.

**Tip #5**

School is an “occupation”. We need to treat it with the same respect and priority as if they are headed to work. There is clock-in time and clock-out time.

**Tip #6**

Talk with your child about school. It is important that they know you, as a parent, are interested in their work and support them. They need to know they are not alone.

**Tip #7**

Celebrate success. Success will look different and you can set the standards. Make the rewards age appropriate and meaningful. Print off work and hang it on the refrigerator when

appropriate, just like when your child brought home a good grade or colorful art. Set goals and reward them. This could be as simple as putting coins in a jar for each assignment finished correctly or on time, or as elaborate as a trip to Dairy Queen after completing a difficult project.

**Tip #8**

Take a first day of school picture of your student. Keep the tradition of marking the date and their age. It's important!