

Be a Passenger Seat Parent

Stop driving your child's school success-- and start navigating it.
Make these 3 shifts:

1: Adopt an Adventurer's Mindset

- Imagine you and your child are embarking on an educational adventure that is the first time for both of you.
- Enjoy the ups and downs on this 13 year journey!



2: Become the Navigator

- Our children KNOW they are the drivers of their educational journey, so when parents and other adults backseat drive or take over the wheel, they either fight back or give up.
- Imagine yourself leading from the passenger seat and provide their (and your) needs.
- Allow natural and logical consequences. Only step in if it's a health or safety issue.
- Benefits of navigating: your child will display more ownership, drive, perseverance, independence, confidence, while everyone enjoys less burnout, conflict, and misbehavior.

3: Work Together Toward the Destination

- Needs drive feelings which drive behavior.
- Belonging is our most integral need, and there's no better indicator of success than a loving, supportive parental relationship.
- Take this journey TOGETHER. You are on the same team, figuring it out (imperfectly) as you go.
- Switch your mindset from *me vs. you* to *us vs. the problem*.
 - Create routines together
 - Create consequences together- *revealed, related, respectful, consistent*.
 - Set weekly, monthly, or quarterly check-ins to problem solve.
- Manage misbehavior using Pause, Pinpoint, Provide to meet essential needs.
- View conflict as simply a problem that needs solved.
- A combination of their driving, your navigating, and the right road map will get you exactly where you want to be. You just have to work together!

HOMework!

1. Take notice of your child's misbehavior regarding school. Are they fighting back? Are they giving up or being "lazy"? If so, where might you be taking over the wheel?
2. Decide on a good time to have a heart-to-heart about school. Explain you don't want to have conflict anymore about school and want to do things differently. Ask, "How can we work together this year to make it easier for both of us?"