

# Understanding and Supporting Your Child's Academic Growth

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This guide explains when schools usually share information about a student's academic progress and when schools usually partner with families

	and students on high-im  August - September	pact tutoring. Click on each h  October - November	yperlink for detailed checklists  December - January	February - April	May - June
What's Happening in the School Year	Back to School:  Get to Know  Each Other	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Learn and Set Goals Together	Mid-Year Progress Reports: Monitor Growth and Progress	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Review Achievements and Set New Goals	End-of-Year Testing, Celebrate Achievements
Understand Your Child's Academic Progress	Discuss your child's hopes and dreams  Ask when progress reports are sent home  Make sure you're on teacher & school distribution lists	Attend parent-teacher conferences  Review your child's progress reports to understand their academic progress  Identify opportunities for support, including high-impact tutoring	Review your child's mid- year progress reports to understand their academic progress If you don't receive them, ask your child's teacher or tutor Discuss how supports have been impacting your child's academic progress	Attend parent-teacher conferences  Review your child's progress reports to understand their academic progress  Identify opportunities for support, including high-impact tutoring	Discuss your child's academic achievements with their teacher or tutor Celebrate your child's academic achievements Determine what your child can do over the summer to continue making progress
What's Happening in High-Impact Tutoring	Tutoring begins in schools and afterschool programs	Participating students attend tutoring sessions consistently	Teachers and tutors share student progress  Tutoring groups and participating students may change	Participating students attend tutoring sessions consistently	Teachers and tutors share and celebrate end-of-year student progress Schools and summer programs may offer high-impact tutoring
Support Your Child with Tutoring	Ask your child's school or afterschool program if they have high-impact tutoring available  Ask what information they use to choose students for tutoring  Ask your child and their teacher or tutor how you can support at home	Ask your child about how tutoring is going  Make sure your child is attending all scheduled tutoring sessions  Encourage your child to try their best in tutoring	Ask your child's teacher or tutor about how tutoring has helped them learn  Ask your child and their teacher or tutor how you can change support at home if needed	Ask your child about how tutoring is going  Make sure your child is attending all scheduled tutoring sessions  Encourage your child to try their best in tutoring	Celebrate your child's academic progress  Talk to your child about how tutoring supported their academic progress  Ask your child's teacher or tutor what opportunities are available for summer learning, including highimpact tutoring



# Questions to ask your child about their tutoring experience

Use these questions to guide conversations with your child about high-impact tutoring. You can choose 1-2 questions each day your child has tutoring to encourage them to reflect on their experiences. This will also provide you with opportunities to encourage their active participation in tutoring sessions so they can get the greatest benefit.

- 1. How was your tutoring session today? Can you tell me about one thing you learned or found interesting during the session?
- 2. What activities or games did you do with your tutor today? Which one was your favorite and why?
- 3. How do you feel about the relationship you're building with your tutor? Is there anything you find particularly helpful or fun about working together?
- 4. Were there any challenging topics or concepts during today's session? How did you and your tutor work through them?
- 5. How do you think your tutoring sessions are helping you with what you're learning in school? Can you give an example of how it relates to your classroom lessons?
- 6. Do you have any suggestions for what you'd like to focus on or learn more about in future tutoring sessions?
- 7. What did your tutor do today that helped you understand the material?



# **Back to School: Get to Know Each Other**

### **Back to School Means Back to Tutoring!**

Did You Know? Tutoring usually begins at the start of the school year in schools and afterschool programs?

Here are some ways to support your child with accessing high-impact tutoring:

- Ask your child's school or afterschool program if they have high-impact tutoring available
- Ask what information they use to choose students for tutoring
- Ask your child and their teacher or tutor how you can support at home

Being involved in your child's school is really important for helping them have a good and successful time learning. Below we share easy questions to ask so you can know what's going on, stay connected, and be a big part of your child's school life.

#### Discuss your child's hopes and dreams:

- Can you tell me why it's helpful for me to share my hopes and dreams for my child with everyone at the school?
- · What's the best way for me to explain my goals and wishes for my child to you and the other staff?
- How can the school help in making my child's dreams and my hopes for them a reality?

#### Ask when progress reports are sent home:

- When will we get progress reports for our child, and how often do you send them out?
- What kind of details are in the progress reports, and can you help us understand what they mean?
- Could you tell us when we'll get the report cards, and what should we learn from them?

#### Make sure you receive teacher, school, and tutor distribution lists:

- How can we make sure we're getting all the important updates and messages from the school?
- What ways does the school use to communicate, like texts, phone calls, newsletters, or emails, and how can we pick the way we like best?
- Are there any special websites or apps we need to know about to keep in touch with what's happening at school?



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### Parent-Teacher Conferences: Learn and Set Goals Together

# Parent-Teacher Conferences are a time to create partnerships and identify opportunities for support

Here are some ways to support your child with accessing high-impact tutoring:

- Make sure your child is attending all scheduled tutoring sessions
- Talk with your child about how tutoring is supporting them in their other classes
- · Encourage your child to try their best in tutoring

Attending Parent/Family/Caregiver Conferences with teachers is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child's teachers, understand their progress, and discuss ways to support your child's academic and social-emotional growth. Here are questions to ask to ensure a productive and positive conference experience.

#### **Academic and Social-Emotional Progress:**

#### *Areas of Strength:*

- What are the standout strengths or achievements in my child's academic performance?
- Can you share specific examples of when my child did really well in certain subjects or activities?

#### Areas of Opportunity:

- Are there any specific areas where my child may need additional support or improvement?
- How can we work together to address challenges and strengthen my child's learning experience?

#### **Identifying Supports:**

 What resources or supports are currently available to help my child succeed academically and emotionally?  Are there extracurricular activities, tutoring options, or counseling services that could benefit my child?

# Advocacy for Support: Creating a Space for Advocacy

- If there are no current supports in place, how can I advocate for additional resources for my child?
- Are there specific channels or procedures for requesting support or accommodations?

#### Setting Goals for Progress Monitoring:

- Can we collaboratively establish realistic goals for my child's progress by the end of the second quarter?
- How can we monitor and track these goals to ensure continuous improvement through the start of the third quarter?

#### Communication Channels:

- What is the preferred method of communication for updates on my child's progress and any new developments?
- Are there regular check-ins or follow-up meetings planned to discuss the effectiveness of the implemented supports?



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# Mid-Year Progress Reports: Monitor Growth and Progress

# Checking in on progress means celebrating growth and continuing the partnership!

Here are some ways to support your child with high-impact tutoring:

- · Ask your child's teacher or tutor about how tutoring has helped them learn
- · Ask your child and their teacher or tutor how you can change support at home if needed
- Make sure your child continues to stay committed to attending and working hard in tutoring through the end of the year

You can monitor your child's growth and progress by reviewing mid-year reports and starting a list of questions to ask during the spring Parent-Teacher Conference. The spring conference provides an excellent opportunity to review achievements, address any remaining challenges, and set new goals if needed. Additionally, it allows for a comprehensive discussion of your child's overall development and academic journey.

#### **Reflecting on Overall Progress:**

 What positive changes have been observed in both academic and social-emotional aspects?

#### **Goal Achievement Assessment:**

- Can we evaluate the extent to which the initially established goals have been achieved?
- Are there specific accomplishments that stand out in relation to our goals?

#### **Addressing Unresolved Challenges:**

- Have any challenges or concerns persisted, and how can we address them moving forward?
- Are there additional strategies or supports that can be implemented to overcome remaining obstacles?

#### **Setting New Goals:**

- Do we need to establish new goals for the upcoming quarter or semester?
- How can we build upon the progress made so far to ensure continued growth?

#### **Future Support and Collaboration:**

- What ongoing support and resources will be beneficial for my child's continued success?
- How can we maintain open communication and collaboration between home and school?

#### **Celebrating Achievements:**

- Are there notable achievements or milestones that we can celebrate together?
- How can we acknowledge the collective efforts of teachers, caregivers, and my child in reaching these milestones?

#### **Continued Progress Monitoring:**

- Do we need to establish a plan for continued progress monitoring beyond the Spring Conference?
- What are the key indicators that we should focus on moving forward?



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### End-of-Year Testing: Celebrate Achievements

Here are some ways to support your child with accessing high-impact tutoring:

- · Celebrate your child's academic progress
- Talk to your child about how tutoring supported their academic progress
- Ask your child's teacher or what learning opportunities are available for summer learning, including high-impact tutoring



As you reflect on the past academic year, filled with notable achievements and moments of growth, discuss and celebrate your child's successes and opportunities for continued growth during the summer and next school year. Here are questions that delve into specific accomplishments, discuss ways to celebrate at home, and outline collaborative goals for the upcoming school year.

- What is something fun or exciting that my child achieved in your class this year that we can celebrate together?
- Can you share a proud moment or accomplishment you observed in my child's learning journey?
- How can our family join in celebrating and acknowledging these achievements at home?
- Are there any goals or growth areas you see for my child in the upcoming school year that we can work on together?

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