

Free Workshops for Parents & Families weac.org/parents

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Is Your Child Getting Enough Social-Emotional Support?

for parents & families
by



Parent Advocacy

How To Make Sure Your Voice Isn't Lost as
an Advocate for Your Student.

Lyman Elliot, Social Studies Teacher

School District of Beloit

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Stability:** Honor the routines of school
 - Getting out of bed
 - Hygiene & dress
 - Breakfast
 - Especially true if your district is vacillating between F2F, Virtual, or Hybrid

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Schedule**: Students have difficulty remembering all of the places they are supposed to be without bells and passing times.
 - Post your student's schedule(s) in a visible place in your home.
 - Set alarms for the various meetings and appointments

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Organization:** Students have difficulty remembering all of the things they have to do and whether or not they have done them.
 - Create a weekly assignment checklist? Post in a visible place in your home.
 - (differentiate between synchronous and asynchronous meetings/tasks

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Space:** The line between home and school can get a little fuzzy. Lend “formality” to the work of school by making a dedicated space (when possible).
 - In my house everyone has a “corner” with room to spread materials.
 - We have a “safe” backdrop
 - We advise each other when we are live
 - Regulate/minimize background noise

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Camera On:** (when possible)
 - There are some good reasons to have cameras off
 - This will help your student be seen and known to their teacher.
 - This will help to keep students accountable to the task at hand.
 - Students might offer an excuse when off.

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Movement:** our bodies (esp. young ones) NEED it
 - Be intentional about movement.
 - It is easy to forget. Schedule it?
 - Standing height work area?
 - Gamify movement?

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Socializing:** This one has been really tough for our family.
 - We are ALL lonely.
 - We live out in the “country”
 - Social Distance campfires, bike rides, etc?

Lyman's Advice to Parents

- **Grace:** Teachers are people too. We're ALL struggling with this.
 - Many are working from home and may be caring for families etc.
 - Arguably, I'm an expert who is starting over.