

Parent Equipping Program: Parent Roles

The Academy recognizes several distinct roles through which parents can directly impact and improve their child's educational experience and work ethic.

Learning Coach

As their child's learning coach, parents/legal guardians will have the opportunity to engage their student directly in an effort to develop and enhance their child's work ethic. UME Prep views this role as the most important since it begins at the youngest grades and continues on through their student's secondary education.

In fulfilling this role, parents will receive instructions from the classroom teacher on a regular basis outlining homework assignments, follow-up study over covered material, and preparation or review needed for their next class. As their child's learning coach, parents will also have opportunity to impact their student's educational experience and work ethic by serving various times as a:

Private Tutor

Parents aid their children through follow-up study over material covered in class, through preparation for specific assessments, or review/re-teaching as needed for their next class or re-assessment.

Guide for Dependent Study

Parents help their child keep pace with the course material assigned and communicate any difficulties that may arise to the teacher.

Guide to Independent Study

Parents monitor the independent schoolwork performed by their child while it is still possible for them to provide additional guidance if needed.

Facilitator

Parents interact with their child on teacher-directed topics throughout the semester. Students will then reflect on those interactions through class discussions and written assignments.

Monitor

Since some courses/subjects involve equipment or expertise which require teaching and work be done in the classroom (lab work/assignments, experiments, etc.), this role is utilized less in elementary and middle school work than that done on the secondary level (grades 7 – 12). The primary way parents engage their child's work ethic here is to track the progress of their son or daughter and to monitor how well they are doing in the course or activity.

Project Assistant/Coach

This role is similar in nature to that of Monitor but asks parents to be more directly involved and interactive depending on the nature of the program or activity. Typical examples of this role include: accompanying your child to a museum for a fine arts assignment, helping him or her complete a photo shoot for photography or are able to get to a library or other facility in order to complete research, etc. Also included in this role is the time and effort needed to reinforce certain athletic or extracurricular skills at home by being directly involved in that activity or by making arrangements for the student to engage in that activity to a greater degree.

Active Supporter

This role usually involves a less hands-on experience for parents of upper secondary students since class demands or competitive extracurricular activities at this level typically go beyond the regular knowledge and expertise level of most parents. Parents in this role are able to enjoy the work ethic already developed in their child by attending practices, performances, games, and by displaying their own work ethic by volunteering in booster club or campus activities.