There’s a teenager in my house!! Surviving 9th grade year!

Encourage your child to be in school everyday. If they are sick, please call the attendance office to excuse them. Not calling in = truancies.

9th grade year is a time for career exploration. Your child should take a variety of courses to find out what excites them. Help your child explore careers choices. WISCareers (Bradford registration code is bhs-c806) is an excellent website to take interest inventories and search careers. They don’t need to have definite plans at this stage in their life.

Get to know your child’s friends and their parents. Ask where they are going and who they are going with. Share your expectations regarding drug use, underage drinking, curfew, and dating with your child.

Help your child get involved. This may mean they need to be dropped off at school early or picked up later or maybe brought to school on the weekend. Employers, colleges, and scholarship committees want to see your child involved in activities. They don’t need a laundry list of activities but a few they are passionate about and committed to. Volunteering as a family is a great idea.

Dealing with a teenager can be challenging. Keep the lines of communication open. They need boundaries, rules and unconditional love.

*Mother Nature is wonderful. She gives us twelve years to develop a love for our children before turning them into teenagers.*

Eugene Bertin