

Some AP Physics Tips for Parents

No matter what your experience with Physics is, there are several ways you can impact your son or daughter's success in AP Physics.

1. Make sure a Physics book is being brought home and it is being used regularly. I assign a large portion of the reading and homework on the topics we cover weeks before the test on those topics. Many students like to wait until a few days before the test to complete their assignments rather than spreading the work out over the entire amount of time I give them (even though I've warned them several times throughout every unit not to do this). We will also have other assignments such as lab reports, learning activities, and review work that will add to the pile they will have to complete if they aren't using their time wisely. **Please ask them about their Physics homework and if they say they don't have any tell them to look over what they have already done (usually they will miraculously find something they haven't completed when you tell them this).**
2. Everyone who has taken AP Physics has needed help at some point. **Please remind your son or daughter of this and tell them not to be afraid to ask for help.** They can ask myself, other students, other teachers, or anyone else who knows Physics for help. At the same time remind them that the goal isn't to get the answer to a specific problem, but to learn the Physics that lead to that answer. Sometimes students get frustrated at me for continually pointing this out to them.
3. **Ask your son or daughter what we're learning in class and make them give you some type of answer (Mr. McChesney blew something up or accidentally lit himself on fire is not an acceptable answer).** If they have to explain what we're learning they have to understand it. If they don't understand it enough to answer you then we need to figure out why they aren't learning.
4. **Make sure you're signed up for Infinite Campus and you're checking grades regularly. I would suggest signing up for the Remind (text (class code) to the number 81010 Class codes AP Physics C @34346d or AP Physics 1 @9fd274d) to see what is happening in the class.** I will update grades as often as possible and the earlier we can identify any problems your son or daughter are having in class the sooner we can do something about it.
5. **Finally, if you ever have any questions or concerns please contact me at Kevin.McChesney@plsd.us.** If you feel it would be easier to communicate by phone please e-mail me your number and a short message on what your concern is and I'll call you as soon as I can.