Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren is a multi-faceted program designed to help grandparents connect with schools, community resources, and other grandparents in similar circumstances. The Office of Student Assistance and Prevention Programs (OSAPP) offers a variety of programs and services to help grandparents and grandchildren adjust. OSAPP provides:

- Resource fairs that connect grandparents with community resources;
- Opportunities for community networking and resource connections;
- Information on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use;
- Monthly workshops on legal, health, and insurance information, financial challenges, parenting skills for today’s children, and other relevant topics;
- Information on school policies, procedures and communication; and
- Support groups.

Other prevention programs for families and students include Parent Family Connection, Families Making Connections, Youth Asset Programs, Second Step violence prevention curriculum, and special events during the year.

Grandparents may have questions about the school system. OSAPP encourages grandparents to talk with teachers, counselors, principals, and OSAPP staff about questions and concerns.

Helpful tips for school success:

- Provide breakfast either at home or school every day;
- Set aside a special place for homework;
- Do homework at the same time every day;
- Have an after-school snack ready;
- Check for teacher and school notices every day;
- Limit television time during the week;
- Establish a regular bedtime to ensure plenty of rest;
- Bedtime is a good time for grandparents and grandchildren to read together;
- Call the school if the student is sick;
- Discuss expectations and boundaries regularly; and
- Talk about school each day: what goes on; what they are learning; and how they feel about things at school.

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As the primary care-giver, it is important for grandparents to build rapport with teachers, school staff, and principals. The following lists some helpful tips and important resource information.

- Try to meet the teacher on the first day of school or soon thereafter.
- Parent conferences provide opportunities to ask questions and build relationships. Elementary school teachers schedule conferences when the first report card is distributed. “Back to School Night” is held early in the year at all grade levels. It is a great opportunity to become familiar with the school, its programs, and your grandchild’s teachers.
- Be familiar with the teacher’s and school’s expectations and boundaries for students.
- Homework Hotline is available at each school and allows grandparents to check homework assignments each day.
- Most schools have a voice mail system to leave messages for teachers.
- Parent newsletters are a great resource for information.
- School volunteers are always welcome!
- Parent teacher organizations always welcome new members. Call the school for information.
- Call the school’s attendance number to report an absence.
- Call 971-7076 for busing information.
- Call 971-7026 for free & reduced-price meal information.

- **School attendance is required by law.** Legally excused absences are: illness and medical appointments; death of immediate family member; justifiable personal reasons (e.g. court appearances); independent study; and confidential medical services. Ten days of excused absences are allowed. After ten days, any absence without a doctor’s note will be considered unexcused.
- **Reporting Absences.** Call the school attendance number before school begins each day the student will be tardy or absent. The school may require a written note signed by you when the student returns.
- **Unexcused Absences.** The School Attendance Review Board (SARB) sets directives for students and parents/grandparents regarding attendance issues. If a student has three days of unexcused absences, SARB sends a letter to the adult caregiver explaining the district’s attendance policy. Additional letters are mailed at five and six days of unexcused absences. In some cases, a hearing before SARB may be required.
- **Injury.** Students who are unable to attend school due to serious injury or illness may be eligible for instruction at home or in a medical facility. Home-and-Hospital is available to students for a three week period or more.
- **Lice.** No more than three consecutive days absence is allowed for lice.
- **Work permits.** Regular attendance is required for students with work permits.
- **Graduation.** High school seniors must meet attendance standards to graduate.

For more information, please contact us or visit our website.

Prevention Team & Parent Family Connection: 916-575-1984

www.sanjuan.edu/ programs/osapp