5 Quick iPad Tips for Parents

#1 Vigilance

Be vigilant and request that homework be completed in a common area of the home (if possible).

In the evening, children definitely need their sleep and time to de-tech for the day. We recommend that students do not go to bed with their device. Setting up a charging station that is in a common area of the home will help keep the device out of the bedroom at night. Please note that the device may not be needed for all assignments.

#2 Accountability

Set up a meeting with all family members to discuss the acceptable use policy.

Help your child by teaching him/her how to deal with distractions through self-discipline or discipline through accountability. One
way you can to do this is by setting up an accountability situation with your child. You as the parent can ask your child to shut down all running apps on the iPad before he/she begins "homework time". Once all apps are shut down you can monitor what he/she does throughout the evening homework period. You can double tap home (or four finger swipe up on screen) to see all previously opened apps. If he/she has Angry Birds or other apps open at all during that time, you can view this in the recently used apps area. You, as the parent can set up consequences.

#3 Notifications

Swipe up the control center from the bottom of the screen and tap on the crescent moon icon to turn on "Do not Disturb." This will block any notifications from popping up while your child is working in an app. You can customize notifications by tapping on Settings - Notification Center.

#4 Guided Access

If your child has trouble staying focused on their work within a specific app, Guided Access enables you to set up the iOS device so that you cannot leave apps, and you are able to control which features of the app you are allowed to use or not use.

#5 Restrictions

If certain apps, such as iMessage or FaceTime, have become a distraction, you can set up restrictions on your child's iPad. You can access this feature in Settings - General - Restrictions.