**Tips for Parents**

•· **Be a stage manager**

Make sure your child has a quiet, well lit place to do practice at home. Provide all needed materials (paper, pencils, pens, and anything specific to assignment).

•· **Be a motivator**

It's a great opportunity for you to tell your child about the importance of school. Be positive about completing work on time.

•· **Be a role model**

When your child does practice work, don't watch television. If your child is reading, you read too. Help your child see that the skills they are practicing are related to things you do as an adult.

•· **Be a monitor**

Watch your child for signs of failure and frustration. If your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers. If frustration sets in, suggest a short break. Breaks provide a relief from frustration and a set of new eyes once the break is over.

•· **Be a mentor**

Play an active role in the completion of practice work. That does not mean completing the assignment for them, but rather completing the assignment *with* them. Don't worry if you don't know how to do the work, it is more important that you remain supportive. If your child does not understand something, have them look for possible explanations in their notes or textbook. If they still do not understand, have them write down exactly what it is they are having trouble with so that they can ask specific questions in class the following day.

•· **Stay in contact with the teacher**

Don’t assume that no news is good news. The teacher will make every effort to keep you updated about your child’s progress, but communication is a two way street. Check the website for upcoming assignments, ask for progress reports, sign up for distribution emails, and call immediately if you have a question or concern about your child. Don’t wait until conference time to bring up concerns.