

## CONVERSATION & COFFEE W/ THE COUNSELORS

1ST WEDNESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH

7:00AM-7:30AM

SMS LIBRARY

JOIN US FOR COFFEE &  
DONUTS

OCTOBER 1:

MOTIVATION

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NOVEMBER 5:

ATTENDANCE

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DECEMBER 3:

REBUILDING FAMILY  
FUN

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Block      09/10 &  
Schedule    09/11

Block      09/24 &  
Schedule    09/25

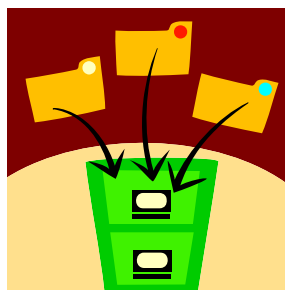
School      10/02 &  
Holiday     10/03

Block      10/08 &  
Schedule    10/09

## Organizational Skills

So many negative interactions between parents and children have to deal with their children's lack of organization. They forget homework assignments, can't find their baseball gloves, don't know where their tennis shoes are in the morning and can't seem to remember what chores were assigned. Teachers also get frustrated with students who are deficient in organizational skills. Students can't find

their worksheets, don't know where their pencils are, and forget to sign their names at the top of the paper.



Organizational skills can be taught and they are vital to each child's success. Teaching these

skills is more difficult than ever for both teachers and parents because there are so many distractions in our children's lives. Quite often children seem to be more interested in television, computers, video games, and cell phones than they are in their chores and school work.

## Organizational Strategies

1. Parents need to make sure their homes are organized and teachers need to make sure their classrooms are organized.
2. When you give a child an order, ask him to repeat it.
3. With very disorganized children, start out by giving them only one order at a time. Eventually try to work your way up to three orders/ instructions at the same time.
4. Don't confuse the child by giving them too many choices.
5. Children can start practicing organizational skills by keeping toys on shelves in their bedrooms.
6. Have children put silverware away. They can learn to put them in their proper position in the drawer.
7. Have children help with cooking. Show them the steps and ask them to gather all the necessary ingredients.



## Guidance & Counseling

*Embrace each child for their unique qualities.*

*Encourage learning through experience.*

*To Empower for excellence in every area of life.*

### Christy Smith & Holly McLean

Schultz Middle School

19010 Stokes Road

Waller, Texas 77484

Phone: (936) 931-9103

Fax: (936) 372-9302

E-mail: [cvsmith@wallerisd.net](mailto:cvsmith@wallerisd.net)

E-mail: [hmclean@wallerisd.net](mailto:hmclean@wallerisd.net)

*Developing good organizational skills is a key ingredient for success in school and in life. Although some people by nature are more organized than others, anyone can put routines and systems in place to help a child become more organized.*

*-The Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities*

### Recommended Resources

Study Strategies for Early School Success

Help for the Struggling Student



Check out our counseling page at:  
<http://www.wallerisd.net/schultz/>

# Organizational Strategies (continued)

8. Let the child help with grocery shopping. They'll discover that the grocery store is very organized in order to help customers find items in a hurry.
9. Set up consistent family routines. Children know that when they come home they get to play for an hour, dinner at 5:00, homework at 6:00, free time until 8:30 and then bedtime.
10. Make sure your child has their own study area with few distractions and includes all the necessary supplies.
11. Encourage children to collect things such as coins, rocks, stamps, and cards. As their collections grow, they learn to label and categorize them.
12. Schedule weekly clean-ups. Together, parent and child discard unneeded items and re-organize items in the bedroom and study area.
13. Children need to become responsible for getting everything they need together for school the night before.
14. Have children be responsible for putting their clean clothes away.
15. Get children involved in sports, scouts and other extra-curricular activities that can enhance their organizational skills.
16. Place a calendar on the child's bedroom wall and post upcoming events.
17. Develop a checklist of responsibilities. Once each task is completed, the child can check it off.

