

AM I DOING THIS RIGHT?

Sept 2016: Submitted on behalf of ARCH by Gwenn Mascioli, a CHS parent who has been active in ARCH for more than 10 years, and continues to make mistakes and learn about parenting every day.

Several years ago I attended an ARCH program entitled, **Boundary Setting with Your Teen**. My kids were moving through middle school at the time and it felt like I was losing control of their bedtime routines – so I was looking forward to hearing the presentation. Another parent asked the speaker about the pros and cons of removing the door from her son’s bedroom and shared details of life with a fairly rebellious 18 year old that were hard for me to wrap my head around. Details I’ve forgotten and really don’t matter now. That night we were both seeking information about setting healthy limits for our children. Years later, the “nugget of inspiration” I took away from that program was that everyone comes to the ARCH table (presentation, meeting, screening, book talk, etc.) for a different reason. Given that every family and every parenting situation is unique that makes perfect sense.

“Parenting is the easiest thing in the world to have an opinion about, but the hardest thing in the world to do.”

Matt Walsh, comedian

Every child is different – even within the same family. Every parent is different – even within the same family! (Insert smile) Since all of our families are different it follows that household routines, philosophies, and questions, as well as solutions – will vary too. Yet even though we have unique situations many of our parenting struggles share similar threads and themes. So when we gather to hear about parenting topics and proposed solutions – we often walk away feeling enriched, comforted – maybe concerned – and on a good day inspired. No one has all the answers. **ARCH aims to provide parents with food for thought and nuggets of information – items for the Parenting Toolbox.**

ARCH offers parents 4 presentations this school year:

- **IF ONLY.** A short film (by the Mark Wahlberg Foundation) intended to raise awareness about drug abuse. (Screening and panel discussion – Nov 2016)
- **DR. KEN GINSBURG** a CHOP doctor specializing in social adolescent medicine will talk about Building Resilience in Children and Adolescents. (Presentation – Dec 6, 2016)
- **PA YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS.** TESD-specific, as well as county and state PAYS results are posted on the District and ARCH websites now. (Public presentation of the highlights – Oct 2016)
- **TECHNOLOGY AND KIDS: EMPOWERING PARENTS.** This ARCH program will be geared toward parents of kids in grades K-6. (Stay tuned – Spring 2017)

In addition, ARCH holds **Monthly Meetings** that are open to all TESD parents and stakeholders. These hour long meetings are part business and part information sharing. The 2016/17 monthly meeting dates: Sept 21, 2016, Oct 19, Nov 16, Jan 18, 2017, Feb 15, Mae 15, Apr 19, May 17 (9-10:15am at TEAO).



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Attend a meeting or presentation.

ALL ARE WELCOME!