

Parent-Teacher Conference Prep

Face-to-face meetings are a great way to share important information about your child. You can help the teacher(s) better understand your child's needs and hear how your child is progressing. Remember, you are part of the decision making process during your child's education. Use parent-teacher conferences to take part. Here are a few tips and thoughts to get you prepared for your parent-teacher conference.

Think About Your Questions Ahead of Time

- What is being covered in this grade or subject this year?
- What are your homework expectations? Has my child missed assignments?
- How are my child's work habits?
- Is my child where he/she needs to be in reading/math/etc.?
- Has my child had unexcused absences?
- Does my child qualify for any special programs?
- Does my child get along well with other students?
- Is my child cooperative in class and following instructions?
- What specifically can I do at home to help my child be successful?

Talk With Your Child

- Ask what he/she would like you to discuss.
- Ask what he/she thinks the teacher will say.
- Ask about what he/she likes and dislikes about school.
- Let him/her know that you will discuss the conference with him/her afterward.

Things to Tell the Teacher About Your Child

- Favorite Subjects
- Interests and Hobbies
- Medical or Health Needs
- Behavioral Problems
- Things Happening at Home (moving, divorce, new sibling, financial hardship, etc.)

During the Conference

- Keep an open mind.
- Ask to see your child's work.
- Sum up what has been said and make sure you both agree.
- Establish the best way to contact each other.
- Decide how you will handle any problems or special issues.

Post-Conference

- Stay in touch!
- Share information with your child.
- Develop a plan between you, your child and the teacher to ensure your child's success.