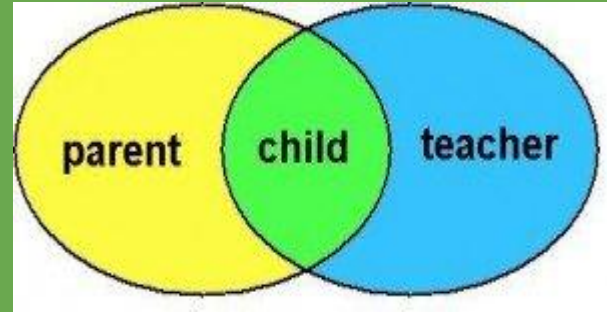


A GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE



PREPARE.....

- Talk to your child. Ask about their experiences in the classroom, during CAMPELS, at recess and in the lunch room. Be able to talk about issues the teacher may bring up for any of these situations.
- Keep a folder. Include graded papers, projects etc. that you may wish to discuss.
- Bring a notebook. Have your questions written down and be prepared to write down responses from the teacher.



BE POSITIVE.....

- Be on time...Teachers are trying to fit in many appointments.
- Understand that you and the teacher must work together. Begin sentences with “We”.
- Remember that this conference is about what the teacher observes *in school*. Often children act differently in school settings. The teacher is there to help, not criticize your parenting.



Listen with an Open Mind.....

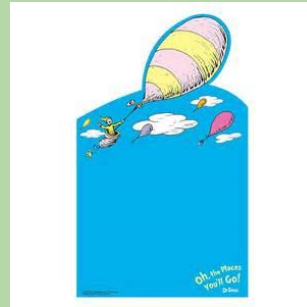
- Ask the teacher to elaborate if you do not understand
- Ask for examples
- Try to stay on topic
- Share any home issues that may be impacting behavior/progress
- Make sure you are receiving information about academic, social and emotional issues.
- For special needs students, be sure the teacher has read the IEP or 504 and that it is being implemented with fidelity.
- Be sure that you leave with an understanding of your child's strengths and weaknesses.



Leave with a Plan.....

- Write down any strategies discussed to help your child
- Establish the best method to communicate with your child's teacher
- Arrange any follow ups needed(another conference, email, phone conference)
- Make requests for any test scores you wish to have copies of
- Inquire and establish any extra help that may be available(if needed)
- Offer to be involved in any activities the teacher may need help with.

And will you succeed?
Yes! You will indeed!
98 and 3/4% guaranteed!
- Dr. Seuss



Questions you might ask.....



1. What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
2. Is my child performing on grade level? In all areas?
3. How does my child work with others?
4. Is my child overly sensitive? Does he/she cry? How does my child react to criticism?
5. Have you had an opportunity to read my child's IEP?
6. In what ways are my child's IEP being followed?
7. Is my child doing his/her best?
8. What is your homework policy?
9. What is the best way to communicate with you?
10. May I share a concern with you?
11. Is there any additional support available for my child?

A Final Thought.....

**"We cannot always build
the future for our youth,
but we can build our
youth for the future."**

—FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
32nd President of the United States of America

