

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Student-Led Conferences

FIRST GRADE

Dear Families,

The first grade team will be conducting conferences differently this time around, and it already is a hit with your children. We will be conducting "Student-Led Conferences". This format encourages all families and family members to attend and participate. The purpose of this conference is to reflect on your child's growth and learning this year. During the 30 to 45 minute conference period, your child will take an active role by showing you work samples and projects. There are many learning experiences and benefits for your child that accompany this format including the following: active participation in the learning process, increased self-confidence, development of leadership skills, organization, responsibility for their learning, communication, and critical thinking skills.

Benefits for you as a family: a longer conference time to gather information about your child's academic and social progress this year, the joy of seeing your child present information and projects they having been working on, plus hear from your child's teacher about the wonders of your child's progress.

There will be 3-5 families in the room at the same time. Each family will choose a table and your child will begin their presentation, just to your family. Having other families in the room, aside from being more efficient, still allows for each child to be more at ease and also duplicates the sense of community we feel every day by being with our learning friends.

Each teacher will rotate into each conference to discuss strengths and goals for your child, and to support your child with their presentation.

We are very pleased to be offering this format to you this spring. Your scheduled time is attached. Notice the conference is 30-45 minutes. You and your child may finish the conference in 20 minutes or extend to 45. If you have additional questions after this conference please feel free to call me to set up another time for us to met.

We look forward to seeing you soon,



STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

What are the benefits?



FOR STUDENTS . . .

- accountability for their learning
- ownership for progress in learning
- increased commitment to school work because they present to parents
- increased interaction between child and parents
- independence
- self assessment
- learning of real-life skills
- increased self-confidence and self esteem
- development of leadership skills
- fostering of organizational, communication and critical thinking skills



FOR PARENTS . . .

- active participation their child's learning
- better understanding of that learning
- less intimidating environment
- first-language communication
- forum for parents to have a voice
- more relaxed atmosphere
- communication between home and school
- a forum for parents to talk to their child productively and positively



FOR TEACHER. . .

- increased student participation
- increased parental involvement
- more effective use of conference time
- facilitate learning by student
- offer more "time" for conferences (45-60 minutes)

SPRING CONFERENCE CELEBRATION

First Grade Team

Hello, thank you for coming!

Show and discuss work samples in folder

- Writing goal
- Writing journal—published books
- Math goal
- Math journal
- Reading goal
- Book boxes, read a good-fit book with fluency, check for understanding
- Talk to my teacher and she will take a family picture

Gallery Walk

- Lincoln
- Garden of Writers
- Writing Process
- Book Tubs
- Dog Gone
- V.I.P.
- Show RBL
- Word Wall

Conclusion

- Family compliment and goal for you
- Student compliment flower
- Thank you

COMPLIMENTS AND GOAL

Name: _____

While you look at your child's work, please notice the many things your child does well and jot them down.

Please note what you think your child should work on for the remainder of the year.

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Dear Families,

Thank you so much for coming and participating in your child's conference. "Student-Led Conferencing" has many benefits for our students. Please take a moment to give your child a much deserved compliment and then I would appreciate your reaction to this conference. If you have additional questions please feel free to call me next week to set up another conference.

Yours truly,

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