

How to Have a Great Parent-Teacher Conference

Wednesday, October 5th



Supporting Student Success Together Fall 2022

What is a Parent-teacher conference?

- A conversation between teacher and child's parent(s) or guardian(s)
- (2) A chance to establish mutual understanding of expectations for your child's learning and development, and of your child's strengths and challenges
- (3) A chance to ask questions about how your child is doing
- (4) An opportunity for teacher and family to commit to concrete steps they will take to support the student, and what follow-up (if any) is needed.



This year, in-person parent-teacher conferences will again be possible.





Breaking it Down

What is my child supposed to be learning?

How is learning evaluated?



What is my child actually learning?



What are my child's strengths and weaknesses as a learner?

What can WE do to support my child's growth & development?



Teachers typically ask parents to sign up for a 15- to 20-minute conference slot







To the pare	ents of
I have s	cheduled our parent-teacher
conference	for at
	We will be going over your child's
progress th	nis year. Please let me know if you
can attend.	Our class is striving for 100%
participatio	nl
	PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION ASAP
Child's Name	s:
☐ I will at	ttend the conference as scheduled
☐ I am un	nable to attend the scheduled
	but propose the following days ar

Teachers usually send a reminder

Before the Conference

Gather what information you have already:

Canvas

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- Parent Portal
- Back-to-School Night
- Teacher communications

How does your child seem to feel about school?







Before the Conference

Is there anything you think your child's teacher should know about your child to better be able to support his learning/behavior in the classroom?

- What my child likes about school (friends, recess, a favorite subject or activity)
- Things that worry/upset my child about school (social, academic, physical)
- Homework time where, who helps, any issues
- What my child likes to do when not in school
- Something I like about my child as a person
- Something I'm helping my child work on
- Any significant home or health situations that may be affecting my child at school (new baby, move, illness or death in family, economic stress, difficulties with sleep or eating)



During the Conference

How well is my child actually learning?

How well does my child *demonstrate* what she is learning? Are there areas of *inconsistency?*





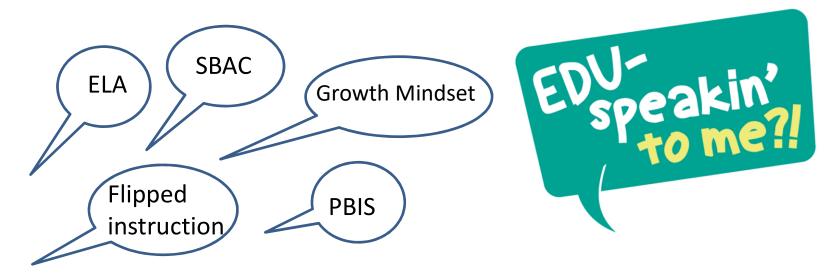
How is my child progressing compared to others in the class? (any red flags?)

Working towards his/her potential?
Strengths and weaknesses as a learner?

Any particular skill gaps?



Clarifying Questions



If the teacher uses a word or mentions something you are not familiar with, ask her to explain or give an example.



During the Conference

What might be some **obstacles** to my child learning or making progress?

Any factors (at school or at home) that may be making it harder for my child to thrive?

Any "atypical learner" issues?





If yes, what **strategies** or **resources** can we access?

- What's the next step?
- When and how will we follow up?



Social Emotional Issues LABAN "As a matter of fact, it's pretty much all we talk about."



What are the take-aways?

What is one thing my child could do to get stronger or better at something? Develop a growth mindset? Be happier?

What will you, the teacher/school, do (or are already doing) to help?

What is something I can do as a parent? Any recommended resources?



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Following up...

Next steps?

Plan to follow up or check in?

If there are next steps, it's a great idea to write an email summarizing your understanding of who has committed to do what.

Questions?

Thank you for joining us. We'd love to get your feedback:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PTConf2022



Learn more about PEN and the resources we offer at www.penfamilies.org ot email us at info@penfamilies.org

