

# Tips for Successful Student Led Conferences



- Make sure appointment times are scheduled well in advanced and are confirmed
- Ensure that students have work ready to be displayed that shows strengths, growth and challenges
- Help your students learn about their areas of strengths and areas of challenge or need
- Have students reflect upon what they've learned, enjoyed, and had challenges with
- Review the proper way for students to introduce their parents and provide time for them to practice introducing people
- ALWAYS be able to celebrate something the child had done well
- Have your assessment notes/anecdotal ready for specific questions
- Always remember that your goals are shared, you want just what the parent wants: what is best for the child
- Make sure students know what the goals were for each piece of work in their portfolio
- Students should be able to discuss what the success criteria is for their work
- Be ready with prompts to help students lead:
  - What are you most proud of? Why?
  - I noticed great improvement in..... Why do you think that is?
  - Are there any challenges you can think of that I or your parents could support you better with?
  - I was proud of you when.....
  - What work habits help you most? (listening, attention to task, being prepared for each activity)
  - What work habits could you improve upon?
  - What do you need to focus on.....What do you need to practice.....
- Help students rehearse what and how they're learning as it will drive the conference
- Independence, Self-Esteem, Confidence and Pride are essential to success, it may be necessary to talk about strategies to enhance these skills between home and school.
- Remember that social learning is a key part of learning
- Always end on a positive note and thank parents for the conference.