



Your Parent – Teacher Conference

**“The better you and the teacher
Work together, the more your child
will benefit”**

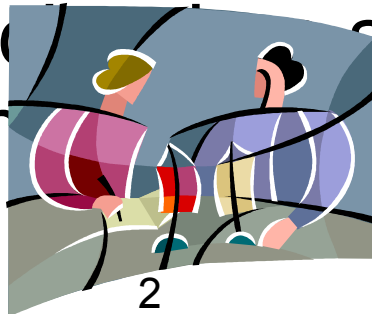


Santa Ana
Unified School District

WHAT IS A PARENT – TEACHER CONFERENCE

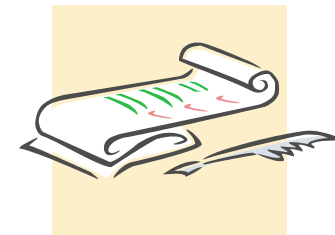
It's a meeting between you and your child's teacher to share important knowledge about your child. You are both experts:

- As the parent, you are your child's first teacher, You know your child better than anyone
- Your child's teacher has special training and experience with different children.





Plan Ahead



Review your child's school work

- Talk to your child ahead of time
- Note anything that may be affecting your child's behavior
- Make a list of questions and concerns
- Contact the Teacher
- Arrange for both parents to attend



What should I Ask



BEFORE CONFERENCE DAY

- Do I listen when my child talks about school?
 - How much time does my child spend on homework?
 - Do I provide a quiet place for my child to work?
 - Are my child's comments about school mostly positive or negative?



ASK YOUR CHILD:

- What do you like best about school?
- What do you like least?
- What are your favorite subjects?
- How do you feel about your teacher (s)?
- Is anything at school making you unhappy?
- How could school be better?



At the Conference



Ask the Teacher:

- What is my child learning this year?
- How is my child doing on homework assignments
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses
- What kinds of tests do you give?

THE TEACHER MAY HAVE SOME QUESTIONS TOO.



Take the Most Advantage of your Conference



ARRIVE ON TIME

- A teacher may meet with many parents on the same day.
- Coming late could upset the schedule and leave you less time with the teacher



RELAX

You and the teacher are on the same side. Each of you wants the best for your child.





RAISE YOUR MOST IMPORTANT CONCERN FIRST

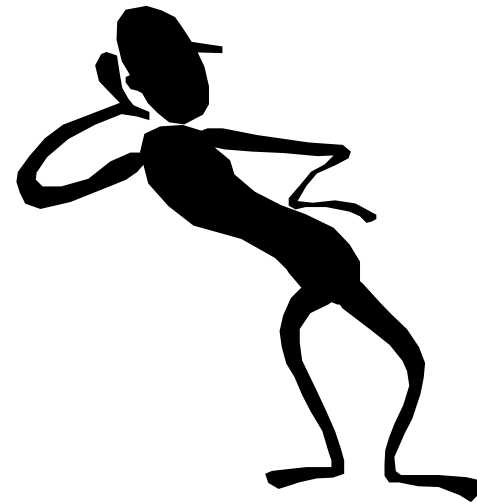
There is a lot to talk about and time is limited.
You may not get to every question on your
list.





LISTEN CAREFULLY

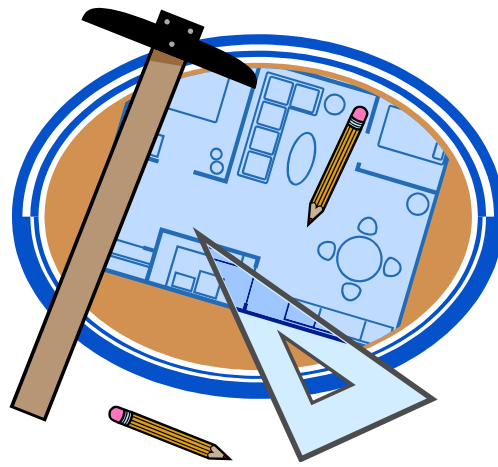
Don't plan your response while the teacher is talking or interrupt to make a point





DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN

Discuss ways to help your child learn and grow through activities at home and school





Build on What You've Begun

Involve your child

Tell your child what you and the teacher talked about. Describe the action plan, and answer any questions your child has.





Stay in Touch with The Teacher

Compare notes to see if the action plan is working. Ask for another conference if you think it's needed.





Volunteer to Help at School

A strong link between school and home makes a child feel more at home in school.





Follow Through on the Action Plan

You and the teacher each have an important part to play.

Your part may call on you to:

Create a study area

Read aloud

Invite your child to talk about problems

Review Homework

Limit computer and TV time

Set bedtime at reasonable hours

Ask you child about school

Encourage learning





Think of The Teacher as your Partner

Make contact early

Look for the positive

Don't accuse

Avoid "yes" or "no" questions

Keep teacher informed

Express appreciation

REMEMBER, wise partners don't blame each other when problems arise – they find solutions.





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