

## *What Is A Parent-Teacher-Conference?*

It's a meeting between you and your child's teacher. Together, you'll share important information about your child that can help him/her to do well in school. You are your child's first teacher and we know that you know your child best. No matter how you did in school yourself, you can work with your child's teacher to help your child succeed!

Your child's teacher wants to help your child do well in school. The conference is a chance for you to discuss:

- How your child is doing academically and socially
- Plans to help your child succeed
- Ways you can help at home
- Conferences also help you build a strong partnership with your child's teacher.
- Plan ahead for your conference
- Review your child's schoolwork
- Talk with your child
- Prepare to discuss challenges at home
- Prepare a list of things you want to discuss in order to importance. For example...
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- What kinds of tests and quizzes do you give?
- Do you have concerns about my child's schoolwork or behavior?
- How does my child get along with others?
- Are there special programs to suit my child's needs and interests?
- What can I do at home to support my child's learning at school?
- Contact the teacher a week or two before the conference. Mention topics you want to cover. This will help the teacher prepare too. Arrange for both parents to attend the conference, if possible.
- Tips for Success at the conference
- Arrive on time
- Talk about your biggest concerns first
- Listen carefully-be open minded to suggestions from the teacher
- Ask for clarification-if you don't understand, ask him/her to explain
- Stay calm and positive- good communication is the key to a successful conference
- Make an action plan- ask the best way for you to communicate with the teacher and let the teacher know the best way for him/her to communicate with you.
- Thank the teacher
- Ask about ways you can volunteer at your child's school (donations, bulletin boards, tutoring etc...)
- Stay in touch after the conference!