

Questions to Ask at a Parent Teacher Conference

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT:

- What is my student's current achievement level in math and English?
- How do my student's math and English achievement levels compare with other students in the same grade?
- Is my student enrolled in classes that will allow him or her to enter college without taking remedial courses?
- Which standardized achievement, intelligence, or aptitude tests have been given to my student in the past year? What do the scores mean? (Be very specific and be sure you understand completely what the reported scores mean). Will the tests have an impact on my student's academic future or graduation?
- Which standardized tests should I expect my child to take this year?
- Can we together go over some examples of my student's class work?

PARTICIPATION:

- Has my student regularly made a good effort on assignments and turned in completed assignments?
- How much time should my student be spending on homework each night?
- Has my student attended class regularly?
- Does my student pay attention in class?
- Does my student stay on task well or need frequent reminders?
- Has my student been developing good work habits?
- Does my student participate in class discussions and activities?
- Is my student: 1) respectful, 2) following school rules, and 3) meeting expectations for behavior in the classroom?

TEACHER OBSERVATIONS:

- Have you noticed any interests that need to be encouraged?
- What are my student's strengths and weaknesses in major subject areas?
- What subjects does my student enjoy most?
- Does my student need special help in any academic subject?
- Who are my student's friends and how does he or she interact with other students?
- Have you observed any changes in learning progress during the year? Has learning improved or declined during the year?
- Do you have any insight as to what may be causing my student's difficulties?

TEACHER STRATEGIES:

- What things do you have my student doing to improve achievement?
- How have they worked?
- Can we meet in 3 weeks (1/2 of a marking period) to discuss: 1) how they are working, and 2) what other strategies might be used?

PARENT STRATEGIES:

- What resources would help my student do his or her work better? Are there additional books or resources available at school or in the community that would help?
- What can I be doing at home with my student to reinforce what you're teaching in class?
- How can we work together to help my student?

Continue Conferences Every Three Weeks As Long As Student At or Below Grade Level

adapted from <http://www.adprima.com/parents.htm>