



ANALYSIS OF NOVEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Topic: Conferences

What are the THREE most important topics that you hope are included in a parent/teacher conference?

	Families	Staff Members
Discussion of Learning Behaviors	70.8%	33.3%
Discussion of observations about student's interactions with peers	62.5%	25%
Creation/Identification of upcoming goals for the student	50%	50%
Review of data such as Linkit performance, math tests, reading level, etc.	45.8%	0%
Sharing and review of students work (ex. such as writing samples)	25%	25%
Review of report card	16.7%	33%
Time for the parent to share information	16.7%	50%
Sharing of ways for families to support learning at home	16.7%	66.7%
Sharing of upcoming curricular topics and skills	0%	0%
Other (from families) . . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will teacher will differentiate in class relevant for my child. • How well do you know MY child as a learner and individual? • Are you meeting his/her needs as an advanced student? 		

What is the one thing that would ruin a conference for you?

If you want to read through all comments, they are below. The big trends from OPS family members were not using the time in a personalized manner, having to wait past their conference time for the conference, and the teacher reading the report card. The big trends identified as areas of concern for staff members were parents not being on time and/or cognizant of the time frame.



Parent Comments

- Walking away not learning anything new
- No feedback on my child's current standing and progress
- 1. going over report card. I've already read it. 2. talking about class parent stuff 3. not knowing my child as an individual
- Feeling rushed, not enough time for deeper discussion
- Going over what is in the report card or scores! Interpretive or qualitative information is most useful: on students interaction, goals, challenges and successes, strategies for working with child at home
- Having to wait way past your appt.
- General comments and reviewing info that I can review on my own time.
- Being interrupted by either the next parent conference banging on the door
- If a teacher only mentions the negative about my child and not pin-point at least one positive.
- the teacher not really knowing my child by now, when it is a generic conference where the report card is basically read to you- doesn't give me any idea if this teacher really knows my child's attitude, challenges, behaviors and friends
- Spending the entire time looking at my child's work and not discussing how he/she can improve or be stretched.
- Important topics not brought up and then learned about at a later date and/or an important issue that should have been brought to my attention prior to the conference.
- lack of information
- Not getting enough time to talk to the teacher.
- If it became clear that the teacher didn't really know my child
- A teacher not knowing my child, who he/she is, how he/she learns, etc.

Staff Member Comments

- When parents are not on time.
- When a parent shows up late.
- Focusing on what has gone "wrong" rather than celebrating student successes.
- Parents need to preview report cards before conference
- That parents feel obligated to come when they have a conference at the door daily. Or that they really don't want or need to be present since communication is ongoing between teacher and parents.
- Parents not having goals for their children.
- Parents not being on time
- Spending the whole time talking about next year's placement and parents who do not respect the time frame.
- I think parents need to be mindful and respectful of the time element. Many of us have well over 25 conferences to fit in. It is imperative that they arrive on time, and leave before the next conference is to begin.



Oradell Public School District

Our children, our hope, our future