

Meridith- Dunbar Early Childhood Academy

In order to help your children have a successful school year, you need to know what is expected of them, academically and behavior wise, from now until June. You can find out by asking some questions. Take this list with you at your parent conference... and don't forget to take notes.

How to Prepare for the Conference

Review your child's work, progress reports, or report cards.

Look over the schools newsletter, website, teacher notes and other information distributed by the school.

Talk to your child. Find out what things about school he or she likes about school or dislikes. Talk about how your child feels about school in general.

Write down a list of specific questions to ask the teacher during the conference such as:

- How is my child performing in school?
- What are my child's assessment results?
- Does my child need help in a particular area? If so, how can I help at home?
- Does my child participate in class?
- How are my child's behaviors, work habits, and attitude?
- How do you as the teacher keep parents informed about my child's progress or problems?

Remember conference time is limited.

During the Conference

You will receive an appointment for the Parent Teacher Conference to be held in October. If you can not attend on the suggested day or time, contact your child's teacher to reschedule the appointment. If you are going to be late or can not make the appointment, please contact the teacher or leave a message with the school. Remember to ask for a new appointment. This conference is very important. You may want to inform your child's teacher about:

- School activities that your child talks about at home, both likes and dislikes, and their feelings about school.
- If anything has happened recently that would influence your child's performance or behavior at school.
- Any special needs or health problems.

Ask specific ways in which you can help your child at home. If during the conference the teacher says something that you do not understand ask questions. Remember your aim and the teachers aim is to assure a successful year for your child.

After the Conference- Talk to your child about the conference, the positive aspects of their work and the areas where improvement is needed. Spend some time thinking about how you are going to put into action your part of the plan to help your child. The success of the conference depends on the action taken after the conclusion. Keep in touch with your child's teacher, by telephone, notes, email, or schedule another conference with the teacher. The goal is to develop a partnership with the teacher to support your child's success at school.

Thank you,