

**THE TEACHER MAY WANT
TO KNOW**

What hobbies, special interests, and activities your child has after school.

Important experiences that may be affecting your child (death in the family, a friend moving away, new sibling, separation or divorce, etc.)

What discipline works best with your child at home?

Your child's feelings and/or attitudes towards school?

Any homework struggles experienced at night.

If your child has any special medical needs.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE

Talk to your child.

Sit down and tell him/her what you and the teacher discussed. Emphasize the positive things the teacher said, as well as the suggestion for improvement.

Follow Up.

In the days and weeks that follow, let your child's teacher know that you are following through on what was discussed and that you'd like to hear how things are progressing in the classroom.

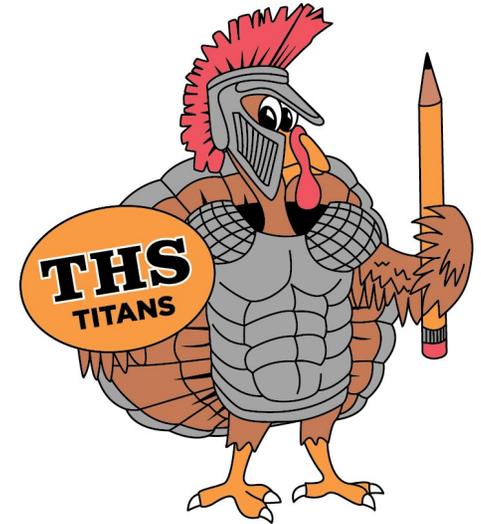
Remember:

Parents and Teachers both:

Want children to succeed

Feel that standards at home and school should complement each other

Believe that learning takes place at school and at home



**PARENTS' GUIDE
FOR
CONFERENCES
WITH
TEACHERS**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A good parent—teacher conference is a two-way exchange of information about a child. Every time you attend a parent—teacher conference, you learn more about your child's learning style and progress. You also have the opportunity to obtain ways to help your child at home and strengthen the bond with your child's school.

During the conference, teachers learn from you and come to understand your child better so they can do a better job in meeting his/her educational needs.

There are many things you can do to prepare for your child's conference so that the time spent is productive and most importantly works to ensure your child's school success.

We look forward to seeing you. We are working hard at Turkey Hill School to make your conference a special one!

Denise Arterbery, Principal

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

Before the Conference

Talk about school every day with your child.

This is, by far, the best way to understand what your child is doing and learning every day. Find out if your child has any concerns he/she would like you to discuss with the teacher.

Review assignments regularly.

Bring examples of your child's work when you want to learn more about a strength or area needing improvement.

Prepare questions in advance.

Conferences are short—so it is a good idea to be prepared ahead of time.

During the Conference

Be on time.

The conference schedule is tight and teachers need all parents to be on time. If something comes up, notify the teacher as soon as possible. Try to reschedule, even if it has to be a telephone conference.

Approach the conference with a positive attitude.

Remember your child's teacher is your partner and by working together you can create a powerful team in fostering your child's learning.

Keep an Open Mind.

Some parents get upset when teachers discuss the areas needing improvement.

Remember, the conference is to help you better understand your child's school performance. Working together will help your child succeed.

Make Plans.

Find out what you can do to follow through at home. Decide what you, your child, and teacher need to do to help your child.

PARENTS MAY WANT TO ASK

What are some areas of strength and areas needing improvement for my child?

What specific suggestions for improvement does the teacher have for my child?

Is my child involved in any special small group instruction?

Are there any special concerns relating to discipline or socialization?

Is my child motivated during instruction?

How well does my child communicate both orally and written?

Is my child meeting homework expectations?