

## What is the Role of the Parent?

Parents participate as active listeners and as advocates for their child.

### ★ Before the conference, parents:

- Encourage their child's involvement in the learning process.
- Familiarize themselves with the conference process.
- Support their child's review of learning goals for the student-led conference.
- Prepare a list of questions for discussion.

### ★ During the conference, parents:

- Provide encouragement, praise, and reinforcement.
- Assist their child in identifying strengths and learning goals.
- Work with their child and teachers to determine the next steps for learning.
- Agree on the date of the next conference to address progress or concerns.

### ★ After the conference, parents:

- Participate in the conference evaluation.
- Discuss the long-term value of their child's engagement in learning.
- Continue to review new goals and the next steps for learning with their child.

**Baltimore County Public Schools**  
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### PARENT SUPPORT SERVICES

410-887-6395

### The BCPS Parentmobile

410-887-0365

### Resource Centers for Families and Schools

Campfield	410-887-1269
Dundalk Middle School	410-887-7147
Maiden Choice	410-887-3646
Middlesex	410-887-0321
White Oak	410-887-5281

### For more information about Parent Support Services:

Log on to [www.bcps.org](http://www.bcps.org).

Select the "Parents" tab.

Select the link to Parent Support Services.

[www.bcps.org/offices/dpd/pss.html](http://www.bcps.org/offices/dpd/pss.html)

## Baltimore County Public Schools

## A Parent's Guide to Student-Led Conferences



## What is a Student-Led Conference?

A student-led conference is a preplanned meeting in which students demonstrate responsibility for their academic performance by providing a review of their work for parents and teachers. The students lead the conference by presenting work samples and discussing their learning.

### **Student-led conferences differ from the traditional parent/teacher conferences.**

- ★ Students participate in all stages of the conference. They prepare and organize work samples, use checklists to demonstrate new learning, and plan next steps.
- ★ Students lead the conversation to show what they have learned. They receive feedback from their parents and teachers about strengths and goals for improvement.

### **Student-led conferences benefit students, parents, and teachers.**

- ★ Students take more ownership of their learning.
- ★ Parents and students have open communication about school, after-school activities, and other important decisions in life.
- ★ Teachers establish a stronger working relationship with parents and students.

## What is the Role of the Student?

Students lead the conference.

### ★ **Before the conference, students:**

- Collect work samples to share with their parents.
- Review their work with the teacher and think about learning goals.
- Explain the benefit of the conference as a learning process to their parents.

### ★ **During the conference, students:**

- Share and discuss learning with their parents.
- Identify strengths and learning goals with parents and teachers.
- Connect their learning to long-term career goals.
- Determine next steps to improve learning.
- Agree on the date of the next conference to address progress or concerns.

### ★ **After the conference, students:**

- Discuss the benefits of the conference.
- Work on the next steps to improve learning.

## What is the Role of the Teacher?

Teachers help students prepare for the conference.

### ★ **Before the conference, teachers:**

- Guide students in the collection of work samples and review of learning goals.
- Review learning goals.
- Explain the conference as a learning process to parents.
- Organize the conference area for successful communication.
- Set up a conferencing schedule.

### ★ **During the conference, teachers:**

- Act as a guide and offer positive feedback.
- Identify new learning goals with students and parents.
- Inquire about students' long-term career goals.
- Assist students and parents in determining the next steps for learning.
- Agree on the date of the next conference to address progress or concerns.

### ★ **After the conference, teachers:**

- Provide feedback to students and parents about the conference process.
- Review new goals and next steps for learning with students and parents.