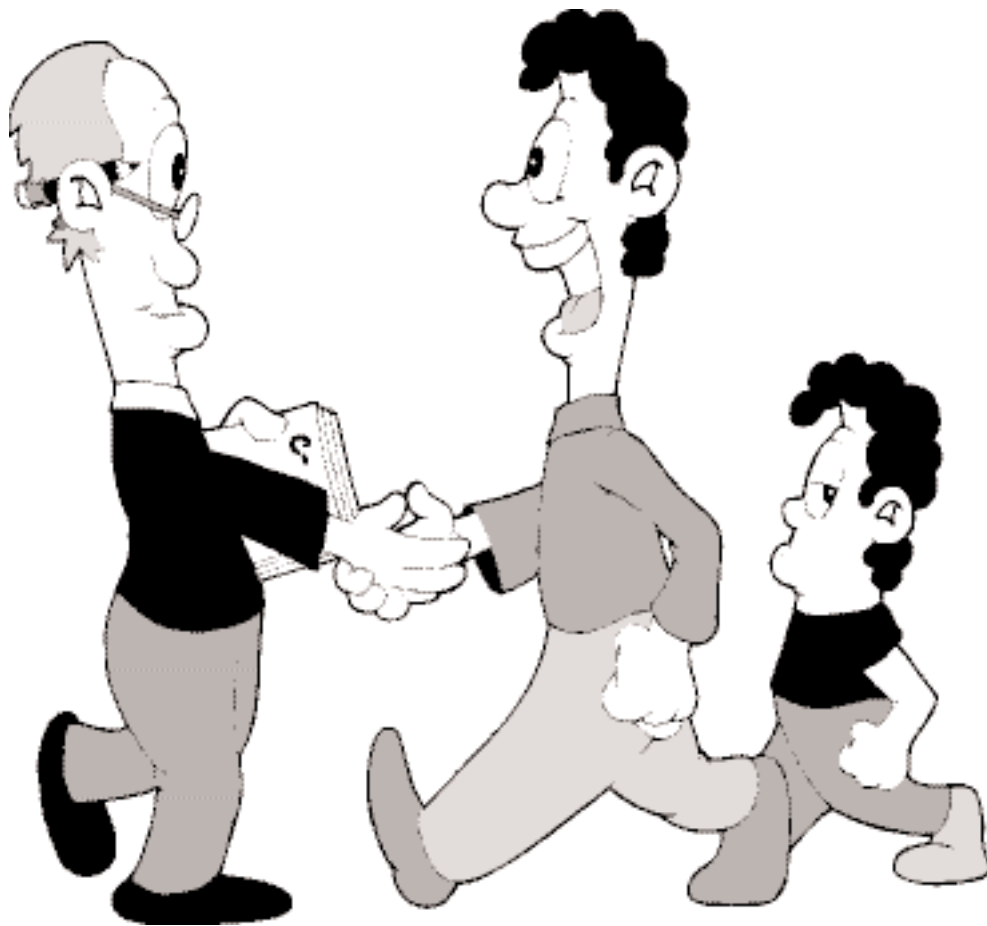


Student-Led Conferences



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NOTES

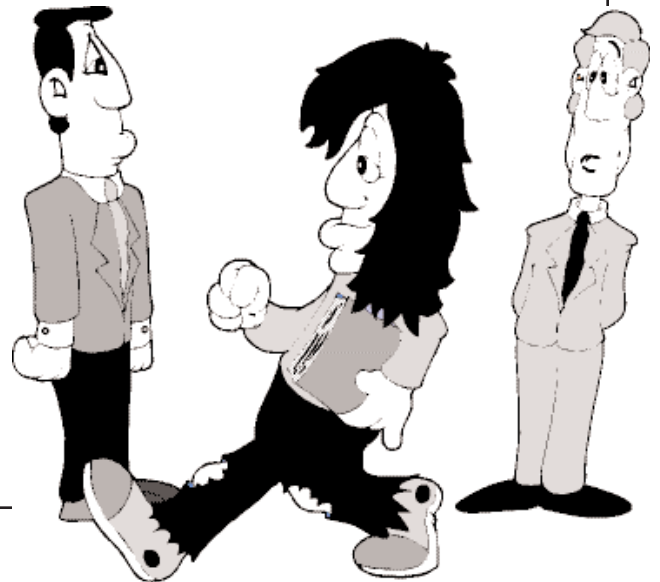
Student-Led Conferences

I. Introduction

- A. Introduce presenters
- B. Survey group
- C. Student-led conference is an opportunity for each student to show his/her parent (s) his/her work, class procedures, and discusses his/her own progress & behavior.
- D. How we became involved

II. Benefits

- A. Helps parents understand what is happening in the team classrooms (easier to ask own child than teacher)
- B. Helps communicate actual student learning (via script, projects, & student work)
- C. Student is accountable to the parent concerning learning and behavior
- D. Enables student to practice organizational and leadership skills.
- E. Forces the student to evaluate own progress
- F. Provides quality parent/child time concerning school
- G. Provides goal-setting time
- H. Focus is positive and on learning; not behavior
 - a. behavior issues arise as an issue concerning the learning
 - b. not "teacher accountability-time"
- I. Scheduling is easier - accommodating; late arrivals and walk-ins are no problem
- J. Less stress on teachers; very relaxed atmosphere
- K. Scripts can be mailed to "no-shows" which means



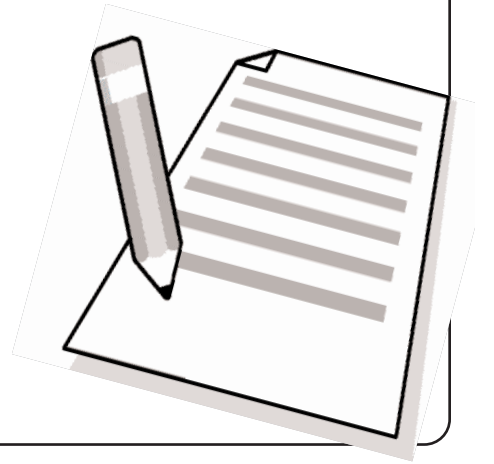
III. Design a format

- A. List your needs in terms of communications to the parents
 - 1. Number of missing assignments
 - 2. Tutoring program
 - 3. Why this student has this grade
 - 4. Explain routines or program
- B. Decide on which papers, projects, or reports that students will show-to be included in the script
- C. Outline a script

Student-Led Conferences *(continued)*

IV. Preparation

- A. Introduce concept to parents early in the quarter-open house or back to school night
- B. Plan 3 conference slots for each time period of 30 minutes
- C. Keep samples of students' work
- D. Present concept to students and parents (via letter) at least 4 weeks ahead
- E. You can have students brainstorm information which parents might need
- F. Send letters to appoint conference times
- G. Write script - include introduction and closure
- H. Students fill in necessary information
- I. Collate saved work and projects from all core classes (create portfolio) - Teacher/Student
- J. Students role-play conference with a partner- practice
- K. Have portfolios organized and ready to be easily obtained
- L. Have math manipulatives, recent science experiments, and projects on display to further explain learning activities that are taking place on the team



V. Possible Problems

- A. Harshness of parent toward child
- B. Parent anxiety about not spending time with the teacher
- C. Location (space) for the conferences

Student-Led Conferences *(continued)*

Welcome your parent(s) to (YOUR SCHOOL NAME).

One thing I like about (YOUR SCHOOL NAME) is _____

(General Team Information)

There are many things in place that help the students succeed.

1) a) Explain tutoring on (day) _____

b) List the four things you can do in tutoring.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

c) I _____ (do/do not) use my tutoring time to help me because _____

2) If students have turned in 100% of their work in all 4 team classes, they will attend a 100%-in celebration.
One at every progress report and one at every report card.

a) I _____ (have/have not) attended one. This is because _____

b) I feel this reward _____ (is/is not) enough to motivate me to turn in my work because

3) Explain skills time. _____

4) a) We also have a lunch detention program. I _ (have/have not) been sent to lunch detention because

b) We can ask to stay in the lunch detention room if we need to catch up on work. I _____ (do/do not)

plan on using this time for working on assignments because _____

5) We have grade folders in each class. They are used to keep all of our assignments and grades.

Student-Led Conferences *(continued)*

(Specific Core Class Information)

- 1) a) This is my folder in language arts
b) I _____ do/do not) have trouble with spelling.
This is because _____

- c) This is my writing portfolio (allow your parent to browse).
d) According to my grade folder, I have _____ missing assignments
e) This is my computer grade sheet.
f) According to my computer grade sheet, I have _____ missing assignments
g) My grade is _____ because _____

- 2) a) This is my folder in science.
b) Go show your parent (s) (NAME OF PROJECT) right now.
c) Show your composition book to your parent (s) now.
d) According to my grade folder, I have _____ missing assignments
e) This is my computer grade sheet.
f) According to my computer grade sheet, I have _____ missing assignments
g) My grade is _____ because _____

- 3) a) This is my folder in social studies.
b) Show your parent (s) your (NAME OF PROJECT) right now.
c) According to my grade folder, I have ___missing assignments.
d) This is my computer grade sheet
e) According to my computer grade sheet, I have _____ missing assignments
f) My grade is _____ because _____

- 4) a) This is my folder in math.
b) After the conference, please let me take you to the math display table and show you the
(NAME OF PROJECT) we have been doing.
c) According to my computer grade sheet, I have _____ missing assignments
d) This is my computer grade sheet.
e) According to my computer grade sheet, I have _____ missing assignments
f) My grade is _____ because _____

Student-Led Conferences *(continued)*

(Wrapping It Up)

1. Ask your parents to help you write at least two academic or behavioral goals.

2. Now write your plans to achieve your goals. _____

3. We need to save these goals and bring them to the next conference in (month of conference)

4. Thank your parent (s)

Student-Led Conferences *(continued)*

(DATE)

Dear Parents:

Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled for the week of (DATE) Our 6-C team will be conducting student-led conferences rather than the traditional parent-teacher conferences.

The focus of the student-led conference is to allow your child to demonstrate his/her scholastic accomplishments. As a parent, you can provide encouragement and help your student set goals for the remainder of the year. You will also have the opportunity to display a positive interest in your student's learning and to accept his/her self-evaluation of accomplishments.

Some of our goals for this conference format are:

- To help parents understand what is taking place in the classroom
- To communicate about student learning
- To accept ownership for learning and behavior
- To enhance organizational and leadership skills
- To build self-esteem through the development of self-confidence

The conferences are planned to last approximately thirty minutes and three conferences may be scheduled at the same time. We will be present for clarification or facilitation as necessary. However, your student will be in charge of conducting the conference with you and it is important to honor the student's commitment to that role. Should you wish to confer with Mr. Thiede or Mrs. Ramage, we will schedule a follow-up conference.

At this time, we need you to indicate a time preference for your conference. Please do so on the back-side, and return this sheet to school with your student by (DATE) . We are using a first-come, first serve approach.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Teacher Name

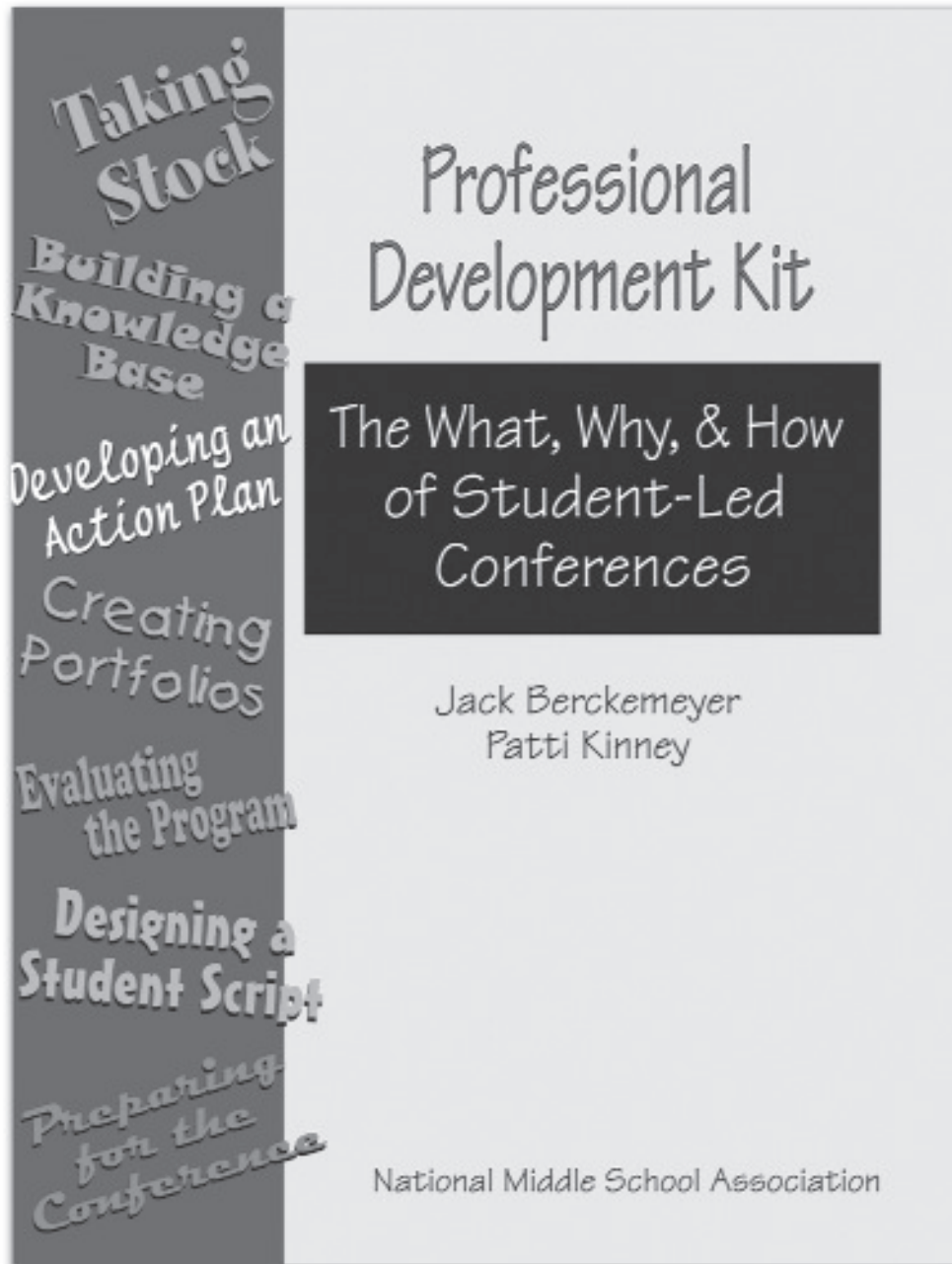
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The What, Why, & How of Student-Led Conferences



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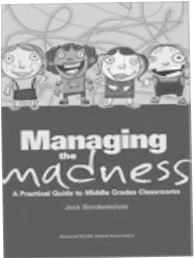
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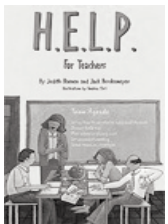
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