

Greer Elementary School  
Building Strong Parent-Teacher Partnerships  
**Questions to Ask at Parent Teacher Conferences November 14-18**

Conferences are the time to learn more about your child's learning style, relationship with others, and what your child will be learning. There are a number of questions you can ask at a parent teacher conference to receive information to help make your child's year more successful. The questions you ask during the conference can express your hopes for your child in class and help you and the teacher work together.

**Setting up an appointment:**

The teacher will contact you to schedule your parent teacher conference. The typical conference lasts about 15-20 minutes. In addition to the first trimester parent teacher conference, you can schedule a conference with your child's teacher at anytime during the school year.

**Preparing for the Conference:**

Find out what subjects your child enjoys best and what subject your child likes the least. Ask your child if there is anything he/she would like you to talk about with the teacher. Make sure your child doesn't worry about the meeting.

Before you go to the meeting, it might be helpful to write down a list of 3-5 things you feel the teacher should know about that might help in working with your child (e.g., personality, habits, or hobbies).

**Great questions to ask the teacher:**

- Is my child working to his/her ability?
- What is my child's learning style?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- What can I do at home to develop my child's weak areas?
- Do you have insight as to what may be causing difficulties?
- What activities are provided that challenge my child?
- Can you recommend enrichment activities to support my child's learning?
- How much time should my child spend on homework?
- What skills are being taught right now and how does that tie in to the goal for the year?
- What skills will my child be expected to master this year?
- What kinds of testing should I expect my child to participate in this year?
- Will a standardized test be administered this year?
- How is my child's attitude in the classroom?
- Is my child respectful and following rules and procedures?
- Do you feel my child has trouble working well with others?
- How is my child getting along with other children?
- Does my child have friends?
- Does my child participate in class discussions?

**During the Conference:**

You should expect the teacher to show you samples of your child's work and assessments. Come prepared with your list of questions. Relax and create a partnership with the teacher that allows for clear and open communication throughout the year.