

Important Information About Student Led Conferences at REALMS

Student Led Conferences are beneficial because they...

- Help students take personal responsibility & ownership for their academic performance
- Help students increase self-confidence by articulating their areas of growth and strengths
- Facilitate the development of students' oral communication skills
- Allow students to learn to evaluate and plan for continued success
- Engage students, parents, and teachers in an open and honest dialogue about learning & progress
- Students and parents have an opportunity to set goals around learning together
- Parents have an opportunity to actively participate in their child's learning
- Parents have an increased awareness of the information their child is learning

Who Does What During a Student Led Conference?

	REALMS Student Led Conferences	Traditional Parent – Teacher Conferences
The Student's Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leads</i> the conference • Does most of the <i>talking</i> • <i>Shares</i> work samples • <i>Identifies</i> areas of strength • <i>Identifies</i> areas for growth • <i>Prepares</i> ahead of time • <i>Asks</i> for and <i>answers</i> clarifying questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often does not attend • Usually just listens • Sometimes answers questions posed by teacher or parent • Is NOT in a leadership role
The Parent's Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Listens</i> carefully to student • <i>Paraphrases</i> or summarizes key points they heard • <i>Displays sincere curiosity</i> by asking open ended questions to help “push” the student's thinking • <i>Notifies</i> and reflects back student successes and areas for growth • <i>Avoids “taking over”</i> the conference from the student 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listens to teachers • Sometimes asks clarifying questions • May give solutions and suggestions to student
The Teacher's Role	<p><u>Helps students prepare in advance by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • having students <i>reflect on</i> or <i>analyze</i> specific assignments and their learning • training students in their conference leadership role • setting up practice experiences • providing a conference agenda to follow <p><u>At the conference the teacher will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listen in • help the student remain in a leadership role during the conference • be available as a resource for the student when needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leads the conference • Does most of the talking • Identifies areas of strength • Identifies areas for growth

Suggested Questions for Parents to Ask During Student-Led Conferences

During conferences, your child will be selecting pieces of work to show and read to you. Sometimes it is hard to know what to ask your child when they share so I have listed some questions that might help you when you listen to your child. I hope these questions will help you understand your child's learning further.

- 1. Why did you choose this piece to show us/me today?**
- 2. How does the piece of work you chose show that you met a LEARNING TARGET?**
- 3. What did you do in class before this piece of work?**
- 4. Is this piece of work part of a larger project?**
- 5. How do you feel about this piece of work?**
- 6. Do you think this is an accomplished piece of work? Why?**
- 7. Did you reach your goal when you finished this?**
- 8. What do you understand now that you didn't know before you did this?
(when finished sharing a piece**
- 9. Read me the part that you like best (when wanting to share a VERY LONG story that might take too long).**
- 10. Why did you choose to...**
- 11. I didn't understand why...(when responding to a piece of work shared)**