

An Overview of Student-Led Conferences

Middle Level Education
Anchorage School District

Middle school students participate in student-led conferences both in fall and spring. We believe that student involvement in the conferences makes learning active, provides opportunities for students to self-reflect and evaluate their performance, and encourages students to accept responsibility for their learning.

There is no waiting in long lines to see teachers during conferences because every family is given a specific appointment time over the course of two afternoons and evenings. Team teachers contact families in advance to schedule a twenty-minute conference time that is convenient.



To prepare for the conferences, students create a portfolio representing work from all of their core classes during the semester. Students conduct the conference elaborating on skills and processes learned, and sharing goals they have set to further improve themselves. They are taught how to select representative work, how to write self-reflective evaluations, and how to diagnose their own strengths and weaknesses. It is critical that your child is present to lead his/her conference.

On conference days, students are dismissed from school early so conferences can be held in the afternoon and evening. During the student-led conferences, core teachers are present to support students and parents; however, they do not sit in on the entire conference. You also have an opportunity to speak to PE and Elective teachers as well as staff from Special Education, Bilingual/ESL, and Indian Education. Counselors are also available.

Teachers, students and parents all play important roles in the student-led conferences. Thank you in advance for supporting your child's education in such an important way. We look forward to seeing you.