

# student led conference

**Objective:** To involve parents and advisors in planning an advisees future and to advocate for my success.

## How to get it done:

1. Review the activity sheet with your advisor
2. Schedule an conference day and time with your parent/guardian
3. Organize your portfolio and prepare
4. ATTEND YOUR CONFERENCE! :)

### THE PURPOSE

We believe that student involvement in the conferences makes learning active, provides opportunities for students to evaluate their performance, and encourages students to accept responsibility for their learning. Having students take charge of the conference makes them more accountable for what they are learning. In addition, this form of conferencing creates a partnership between the home and the school that is hard to get in any other way. Both research and experience have demonstrated that student-led conferences offer many benefits including the following:

- Stronger sense of accountability and pride in achievement among students;
- More productive student-teacher relationships;
- Greater parental participation in conferences; and
- Greater personalization for every student.

### PREPARATION

- Know where and when your conference is scheduled
- Organize your portfolio so you know where everything is located
- Rehearse –you will have only 10 minutes –use your limited time effectively and efficiently

### APPEARANCE: BE CONSERVATIVE

- Your personal appearance affects your credibility. Pay significant attention to your personal grooming
- To be considered distinguished in your appearance
  - \* FEMALE: suit dress/pants, dress shoes, nylons, groomed appearance
  - \* MALE: suit, tie, dress shirt, dress shoes, groomed appearance
- To be considered proficient in your appearance (this is where students are expected to be)
  - \* FEMALE: nice sweater/blouse & skirt/slacks, nice shoes, groomed appearance
  - \* MALE: nice shirt & slacks, tie optional, nice shoes, groomed appearance

### YOUR ORAL PRESENTATION

#### Introduction

- Introduce your advisor to your parents
- Smile, be enthusiastic & confident
- Give one to two statements identifying the purpose of your presentation

#### Poise

- Be well prepared
- Avoid distracting mannerisms (such as tugging at your hair)
- Be enthusiastic
- Make eye contact with every person every person sometime during your conference

#### Communication Skills

- Speak clearly, don't mumble or speak too quickly or softly –Remember that your audience should be able to hear and understand what you say
- Rehearse –you will be much more confident by practicing beforehand
- Use correct grammar (professional language)

### YOUR PORTFOLIO CONTENT: In your conference, speak to the three categories below. Use your portfolio to show documentation

#### Student as Learner:

- Transcripts, Credit Checks, Best of Works, Any Important Assessments
- Talk about your grades for each class.
  - What type of learner are you (**Activity 2**)?
  - How has knowing about you grades and transcripts helped you determine you academic and educational goals and future plans?
  - Have you used information from academic assessments to help you identify your strengths and weaknesses and set goals?
- Best of Works**
- Choose three or four examples only of your very Best of Works
  - Be able to explain why you chose these, what you learned from doing them and their relevance.

#### Student as Worker:

- Interest Assessments, etc.
- What do you value in work?
  - How is your school **attendance**?
  - What did the career assessment (**Activity 4**) say about you?
  - What career did you explore?
  - What are your specific career interests?
  - What is your plan beyond high school -at this point of your academic career?

#### Student as Citizen:

- Service Learning, Awards & Honors, Achievements
- What activities have you been involved with -in and out of school?
  - What awards & honors have you received?
  - What service learning activities have you been involved in and how has it contributed to society?
  - How do these relate to who you are and where you are headed for your future?