



Back To School Conferences

Medford Elementary

2015-2016

BEFORE SCHOOL CONFERENCE DAY PROPOSAL

- Two days prior to students starting school grades one – six would have parent/teacher conferences
 - September 8th, 9th - school would begin on September 10th
- Kindergarten would continue to utilize four days of conferences
 - September 8th – 11th - school would begin on September 14th

WHY BEFORE SCHOOL CONFERENCES?

- The need to be more effective and efficient as educators has become apparent. Starting the school year off with data and information that we typically would not have until December is exciting.
- Bottom line is that we lose hours or class time due to assessments and other pull-out activities during the first three months of school. We could start teaching and learning on day one
- Rather than having 300+ families coming through the building in an hour, we could have 20+ families in the building each hour for two days.

WHAT WOULD THIS LOOK LIKE?

- Parents would schedule a conference with their child's teacher using a free on-line scheduler i.e. – Parent Teacher Conference Fast (PTCF)
- When families enter the building they would be given a checklist/passport. This is a road map to what needs to be accomplished and what is optional during their time in the building
- Meeting with their classroom teacher and completing the academic assessments are a must.
- Meeting with food service and transportation reps would be considered optional

BENEFITS OF CONFERENCE DAYS

- Allow teachers to have a better understanding of their students needs and learning styles before school actually begins
 - ✓ Intervention groups
 - ✓ RtI
 - ✓ Guided reading
 - ✓ Fitness tests
- Decrease student and parent anxiety
 - ✓ Sit down interview/assessment with the teachers
 - ✓ Students and parents take care of traditional day one activities
 - ✓ Face to face interaction with parents/teachers

BENEFITS CONTINUED...

- Vision and hearing screening
- Transportation Q and A
- Food service Q and A
- Aims Web, Grade level assessments
- Individual goal setting
- Benchmarking
- Pictures ?
- I-Pads, textbooks
- Locker and desk assignments

SIGN OF THE TIMES

- Several area schools are scheduling before school conferences
- KM – Probably one of the best things we have ever done. Our groups were able to meet a month earlier. Teachers knew their kids and it was a win-win for all!” *Principal Krell*
- Byron – I feel this addition has been one of the biggest “wins” we’ve had since I started as Principal in Byron. *Principal Rodemeyer*

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Board approval
- A committee will develop the details
- Blueprint of what we want to accomplish during these days and who that involves
- Scheduling – people, space etc.
- Communication, communication, communication