

Los Angeles Academy Middle School

"In Pursuit of Excellence"

Preparing for Student-Led Conferences

Student-Led Conferences are scheduled for **Thursday, November 5 from 4 to 6 pm**. Below are some useful tips that will help make this event a successful one for students, parents, and teachers:

Remind your students daily that conferences are coming. Write the date in a conspicuous place in your room.

Allow time for your students to review and prepare their portfolio and/or notebook.

Students should be able to point out their best work, and explain why it is their best.

Allow students time in class to reflect on the work they have done

What did they do well?

What can they improve?

Allow time for make-up, revision, and completion.

Stress to students the importance of their parents coming to the conference. Tell students this is a great time to become partners with their parents in their education. Have students prepare their parents ahead of time that the teachers are not going to sit down for a long discussion about them; their work will tell them all they need to know about what kind of student they are.

Teachers who provide an incentive for students to bring their parents have had a higher turnout than those who do not; bonus points on their grade is always a good (and free) incentive.

Be sure that any flyer regarding the conferences goes home with your students.

Have students write a personal invitation to their parent.

Be sure the room environment is warm and welcoming on that night.

Have student work posted.

Get all the chairs off the tables.

Greet the parents as they enter.

Have a place where parents can schedule a conference with you if they desire.

Providing a light refreshment, such as cookies, is okay, but avoid beverages, as they tend to spill with all the little ones who will be in the room.

Check out the LAAMS website for some scripts as well as other resources that will help make this event successful.