



Olympia High School

Student-Parent Conferences

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Student-Parent Conference?

- *A student-parent conference is a conversation between parent(s)/guardian(s) and their child that is led by the student. The purpose of the SPC is to have a discussion of your student's current year's career exploration, academic progress, and plan for the upcoming school year as well as beyond high school.*

Why are we being asked to have a Student-Parent Conference?

- *In order for learning to be more relevant, students should be able to connect what they are learning both to prior learning and to the world outside the classroom. Talking with parents/guardians about current progress and future goals/plans through a guided SPC provides students with an opportunity to reflect on whether or not they're maximizing opportunities to prepare for their future.*

These conferences offer one method to increase student responsibility for their learning. In describing their goals and future class choices, students must reflect upon and explain how they are moving toward their dreams, or talk about what is getting in their way.

- *Reporting student progress to parents or other significant adults has become increasingly important as learning becomes more and more complex. SPC's can be an excellent way to communicate student achievement or performance to parents or other adult advocates.*
- *We understand that taking time off work to attend a Student Led Conference at OHS has been problematic for many parents. Asking you to have this "conference" in your home will provide students and parents with the opportunity to have this conversation at a more convenient time.*

What role does each person involved play?

- *Student ~ the Talker, explaining about his/her progress this year and goals for next year.*
- *Parent/Adult Advocate ~ the Listener, paying attention to what the student is reporting and asking questions, as appropriate.*

How long will the conference last?

- *Completely up to the parent/guardian and student. There is no expected minimum or maximum time, although if basic instructions are completed and discussion time is encouraged average time spent between **10-20 minutes**.*

What is the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP)?

- *The HSBP is a post high school plan, developed by the student to gain a better understanding of self, skills and interests. Through instructor presented grade level presentations, students are provided the opportunity for career discussion, pathway research and development of a personalized post high school plan. This is also a graduation requirement set by the State of Washington. Students keep the components of their HSBP in an electronic portfolio hosted on the Career Cruising website. Parent engagement is considered an important component of each student's HSBP; therefore, the expectation is that students share their plan with a parent/guardian in the Spring of each year during a student parent conferences (9th – 11th grade).*

