



## **Action Plan**

### **Ideas For Great Parent/Teacher Conferences**

#### **As a parent, remember:**

A conference is about:

- Your child and his or her development
- The opportunity to create partnership with your child's teachers
- A chance for you to gain additional insights about your child

#### **As a teacher:**

- Start a conference with a short anecdote about the child to help parents feel confident that you know their child
- Focus on asking a few key questions:
  - Do you have any concerns about your child's learning?
  - Does your child voice any concerns about his work at school?
  - Is there anything you would like me to know?

#### **As a parent:**

- Tell the teacher a story that about your child.
- Ask direct questions:
  - Do you have any concerns about my daughter's learning?
  - Is there anything you would like me to know?
- Come prepared
  - Pen and paper to take notes
  - Be ready to listen to the teachers and to try to understand
  - Use probing questions of who, what, when, where, why and how
  - Focus on your child's needs
  - Avoid blaming yourself or the teacher. Parenting should be a guilt-free zone!
  - Be an advocate for your child
  - Get your child involved in the process
  - Share what works at home
  - Plan a follow-up conversation, if needed