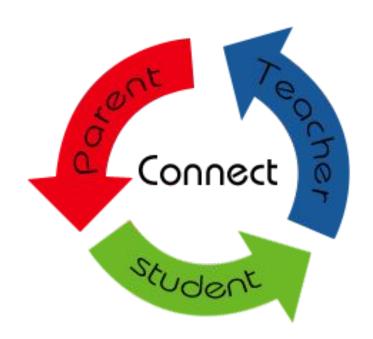
# Pilot of New Parent Teacher Conference Process

**Overview** 

## **Context for Change**

- 1. Satisfaction Surveys 2016-2017
  - a. Administrators, Teachers & Parents agree
    - → We can do better!
- 2. California Standards for the Teaching Profession
- 3. California Education Code



## **Goals**



- 1. Improve student achievement and experiences through teacher-family partnership
- 2. Improve consistent "light touch" communication and outreach from teachers to home.
- 3. Be available and accessible when the need for parent teacher conferences arises.

# **Context for Change**



The Underutilized Potential of Teacher-to-Parent Communication: Evidence from a Field Experiment Faculty Research Working Paper Series (Kraft & Rogers, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, October 2015)

"There is a strong body of evidence that students perform better academically when parents are deeply involved in their education. Yet much of that research was conducted before computer-based technology was prevalent in homes and schools. The research also lacks data on how students' academic performance is affected by parents' tech-based interactions with teachers.

A working paper released last year (October 2015) by researchers at Harvard University addresses some of those gaps. It found that frequent text-messaging [or other "light-touch" communications] between teachers and parents was linked to improved student academic outcomes when the content of those electronic exchanges was focused on educational goals."

# **Implementation Process**



Conference Request Tool Live

August 31, 2018

Administration sends official "invite" to parents

October 2018

Teachers organize and schedule meetings as needed Ongoing\*\*

<sup>\*\*</sup> see Negotiated Agreement for limitations on teacher time/expectations

## **Conference Request Process**





- In the interest of consistency and accountancy, teachers should NOT use their own individual sign up processes.
- 3. Parent/Guardian fills out request when they want to meet with or discuss their student's progress in depth.
- 4. Google forms will generate a PDF with all the conference request information and you teachers will receive an email with the information.
- 5. Teachers will respond to the request → Likely by email or phone
- 6. Please plan to meet during the school day if able, but if your schedule does not permit, teachers will make themselves available after school.

# Reasons to request a conference



#### 7.4.2.3 Definition of Parent Teacher Conference

The term "parent-teacher conference" as used in this pilot, refers to scheduled discussions between parent(s)/guardian(s) and individual teachers concerning a student's specific academic and/or social-emotional progress, and is not intended for general information or personal/social interchanges with a teacher, nor does the term include District scheduled Section 504 and IEP meetings with parents.

The District administration and unit members will encourage conducting parent-teacher conferences through use of telephone, email, text, or through a scheduled face-to face meeting.

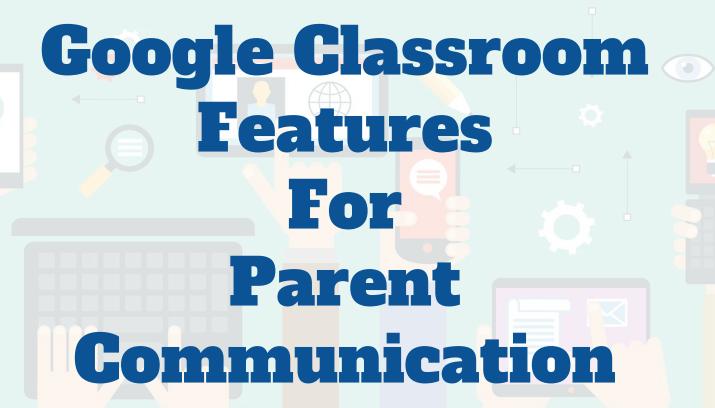
For more general information or personal/social interchanges with a specific teacher, parents will be encouraged to attend Back to School Night or other larger school events or referred to printed material on the website.

## **Availability of conferences**



For parents/guardians interested in further discussion after the teacher's initial response, a one-to-one conference may be scheduled in person, or when appropriate by telephone, digital conference (e.g. Skype, FaceTime, Google Hangout). Although the District and unit members shall encourage the scheduling of one-to-one Parent-Teacher conferences during the teacher's preparation period, one-to-one conferences may also be offered before or after the teacher workday. If a one-to-one conference (digital or in person) is scheduled before or after the teacher workday, the following conditions will apply.

- 1. A teacher may schedule a meeting before school from 7:00AM 7:50AM
- 2. A teacher may schedule a meeting after school from 3:30 PM 6:00 PM
- 3. A teacher will not be required to schedule one-to-one conferences outside the workday on more than one day per week.
- 4. A teacher will not be required to have more than twenty (20) one-to-one parent conferences outside the work day with an expected duration of 20-30 minutes.



### **Parent/Guardian Notifications**

Not only can teachers assign work but they can also keep parents in the loop. Request to be added to the Google Classrooms of your child's teachers.

Any email address will do—a Gmail account is not required.

Once added, parents/guardians will begin receiving email summaries outlining class activity, including missing work for their student, as well as upcoming work. Parents can choose to receive Daily or Weekly summaries.

Once a parent/guardian email address is linked to a student, it is linked for the entire domain/district.

---Excerpt from Shawn Beard's "8 Things You Didn't Know Google Classroom Can Do" (2017)

## **Parent/Guardian Notifications Example**

#### Class activity from last week



Assignment - Due Aug 9

#### "The Price of Free Speech" Reading and Questions

Read the handout attached and answer the questions listed in the Google Doc. All answers should be in your words.

Posted Aug 5

Question

What document ended the War? What were the major components of the document?

Posted Aug 5

Assignment - Due Aug 16

#### Birth of a Nation

List out the strengths and weaknesses that the British and colonists' possess during the revolution. For the weaknesses listed, please provide a paragraph on some ways that it could be avoided.

Posted Aug 5