

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Conferences

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Individual Planning Conference focuses on progress toward a student's personal/social growth, academic/career development and looking ahead to their future as they transition to high school and eventually into a career. Held during 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration, emphasis is placed on a review of the student's talents, hopes and dreams, abilities, interests, academic performance, standardized test results, learning styles, career interests, and the high school registration process.

Parents are a key member of the conference team. Individual Planning Conferences are specifically designed conferences for parents to gain insight into their child's development and for students to gain insight into the direction they are headed in the future. Our task is to determine how we can help them create and achieve broadly based goals for their future.

Conferencing provides parents the opportunity to discuss their child's talents, abilities and interests in a positive atmosphere and to begin developing a 4-year High School Plan. Individual Planning Conferences are not intended for discussions of student behavior issues. If desired, behavior issues can be discussed during a future counseling appointment.

Facilitated by the school counselor, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Individual Planning Conferences are scheduled during the school day. The length of the conference is typically 45-minutes and includes both the parent(s) and the child.