

Guiding Questions for Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Before the meeting (reflection questions):

- What knowledge/skills/culture does this student bring with him/her to class? What evidence do I have for this?
- What are three ways the student has enhanced the class?
- What does the student know (specific mathematics and other)?
- What are areas for growth and how are these framed?

During the meeting (conversation starters):

NOTE: if you do not speak the parent's native language, enroll a colleague to help facilitate the conversation

- Introduce yourself and give some details and background
- Ask the parent about themselves and ask for some details and background (if they are comfortable sharing)
- I really enjoy having _____ in class because _____
- _____ enhances our classroom by _____
- What have you noticed about _____'s experiences at school?
- What types of mathematics does your family naturally engage in on a regular basis?
- What types of activities does _____ like to do, and what do you do as a family?
- I have noticed that _____ really understands (sample mathematical concept). He/she has demonstrated this by (show or describe student work)
- *Repeat above bullet for other mathematical content areas*
- I have noticed that one area for growth is (mathematical concept). He/she has demonstrated this by (show or describe student work).
- *Do not repeat above bullet more than once*
- If relevant, describe the ways in which you can use what the student *does* know to help them to build knowledge in the areas where they need support.
- Can you come share your expertise in _____ with the class?
- Provide ways that they can get in touch with you and express your support

**This should complement conversations with the student about what makes them happy, sad, etc.