Making the most of Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences (which at CSS should really be called Parents-Teacher-Students Conferences because we request students attend as well) are this month, and we want you to have all the information you need to make the most of them.

Who & When:
Middle School
Wednesday, 11/18, 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Friday, 11/20, 1 - 3 p.m.
High School
Thursday, 11/18, 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Friday, 11/20, 1 - 3 p.m.

Electives end by 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Students are dismissed at noon on Friday, and there are no afterschool activities that day.

Procedure
There is no advance sign-up for the conferences. After picking up the report card and teacher listing in the West Gym, parents determine their child’s teachers and their meeting location. They join the chair line labeled with the teacher’s name outside of the room where the teacher is located. Parents move forward a seat at a time until it is their turn. Line-up doesn’t begin till start time, so arriving early isn’t helpful. Many parents find it helpful to focus on teachers where there may be a concern or if they haven’t yet met the teacher. Meetings last 2-3 minutes, and are timed.

Conferences provide an opportunity to touch base with teachers on how your child is doing in class. While not mandatory, they can be helpful to your child’s education and your understanding of it. If there are in-depth issues to discuss, we recommend you arrange a longer meeting with the teacher for a different date by contacting him/her directly via email, telephone message or note. Parent-teacher conferences are held twice per year; the next ones will take place in March, 2016.

CSS takes steps to strengthen school culture

Staff and faculty members are implementing events, practices and activities to enhance school culture and boost school spirit. Below are four of the ways CSS is building community:

Wall of Fame
Students who bring CSS pride, like junior Gabriela Gonzalez who won the grand prize in the EF WeShare Project contest, have their picture taken and displayed on a 3rd floor bulletin board.

Monthly contests between grades
The grade with the fewest detentions (usually given for lateness and uniform infractions) wins a pizza party. Score is kept by the 3rd floor West elevator.

Community Day
Every two months, CSS has a day of alternative programming during the school day that includes a Town Hall and field day activities. The next one takes place Wednesday, November 25.

Moments of pride
Students and teachers post shout-outs on 3rd floor bulletin boards.

Mariachi Flor de Toloache, one of the acts to perform

Hispanic Cultural Night is Dec. 10!...

This year’s celebration of Hispanic culture culminates on Thursday, 12/10. It begins with a Latin buffet provided by CSS families in the W. Gym, from 5 - 6:30 p.m. The feast is followed by a spectacular show in the auditorium, from 7 - 8:30 p.m., featuring CSS talent and renowned New York artists representing Mexico, Perú, Venezuela and the Garifuna of Central America.