



Shanghai American School

An International Community

March 19, 2008

Dear Parents,

On April 10th and 11th, all students at Shanghai American School will participate in student led conferences. Direct student involvement in the conferences makes learning active, provides opportunities for students to self-reflect and evaluate their performance, and encourages students to accept responsibility for their learning.

In the process leading up to conferences, students have been busy creating portfolios representing their work and goals through the first quarter. The portfolio is a purposeful collection of student work that tells the story of your child's growth as a learner. Your child will share this portfolio with you during conferences, detailing skills and processes learned as well as goals they've set to further improve themselves.

Since we know the conferences will take longer than the usual ten minutes, we have scheduled thirty minute blocks of time for you to attend the student involved portion of your child's conference. It is a vital and important experience that all students are able to share with parents what they have learned academically and socially so far this school year. For this reason, we ask that 100% of our parents participate in conferences. Your initial thirty minutes will be spent with your child going through their portfolios. The time immediately following your scheduled time slot should be spent visiting your child's specialists and core teachers for further information.

Please ask your child to return this paper to their advisory teacher with your first three choices of start time windows labeled (choice 1, choice 2, choice 3) by next **Tuesday, April 1st**. You may send this paper in via your child or you may email your child's advisory teacher with your first three choices. Slots will be filled on a first-come first serve basis. If your 8th grader has other siblings participating in conferences through the school, please write a note to us on the bottom of the sign-up page.

More information will be provided the week before conferences about what to expect during the student led conferences. We look forward to seeing you on April 10th or 11th and we thank you for supporting your child's education in such a meaningful way. If you have any questions, please feel free to email any of us.

With Warm Regards,

Amanda DeCardy
Kay Saich
Fay Leong
Eli Weiss

Susannah Muench
Jennifer Lewis
Michael Saich

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Email: info@saschina.org **Website:** www.saschina.org

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Advisory Teacher: _____

Please label your first choice, second choice, and third choice for starting time windows.

Choice 1: _____

Choice 2: _____

Choice 3: _____

Options for Thursday, April 10th

- A. 12:30 – 1:30
- B. 1:30 – 2:30
- C. 2:30 – 3:30
- D. 3:30-4:30

Options for Friday, April 11th

- E. 12:30 – 1:30
- F. 1:30 – 2:30
- G. 2:30 – 3:30

Please return this form as soon as possible to your child's advisory teacher or you may email them with your first three choices. You will receive confirmation no later than Tuesday, April 1st regarding your starting window for conferences. If your child has a sibling at another grade level who has a scheduled conference time, please complete the following information:

Sibling's Name: _____

Sibling's Grade Level: _____

Sibling's Teacher: _____

Sibling's Conference Day and Time (if known): _____

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