

Takeaways for Talking with Parents

- Do we feel prepared for conversations with parents?
 - How are we developing in that area?
- We must be mindful of evaluating each conversation we have with parents. Most conversations go just fine, we end up conjuring up these negative feelings towards conversations with parents. (Shift your lens)!!!
- Research has shown that at least some level of parent involvement is both helpful and encouraging both to students and staff.

- 4 Strategies for Facilitating Effective Communication with Parents
 - Monitor Your Self Talk
 - Set positive expectations
 - Don't conjure up negative thoughts
 - Listen
 - Listen to the parent and identify the concern
 - Ask
 - Clarify the situation and assure the parent that you want to understand their concerns
 - Respond
 - How do we move forward with suggestions
 - Show some empathy with the parent
 - "We both want your student to succeed here"!
- Sometimes parents want to help, they just don't know how!
- We must be cognizant of what generation parents come from and what generation their students are.
- How has the parent perspective of education changed as their student has moved from the K-12 system to the college environment.
- The world we live in: Parents know everything as it happens in the k-12 system.

Transition to College

- Not just for students, it is also for parents
- Has the student consented to release their educational records?
 - One of the most important questions when speaking with parents.
 - No Consent? No Problem!
 - Following the law does not mean you cannot be helpful!
 - Parents always deserve a call back.
 - Do not assume that a parent and a student have connected.
- FERPA - No Internet for Docs
- Why do we have FERPA?
- The hard part is that we assume a majority of people have good intentions, they do!

- We have to think about how things could be used maliciously.
- If it can be found publicly, it can be shared.
- Educational records do not include HIPAA or UNI Police records.
- LeRoy Rooker on campus on April 11th
- Making sure to let a parent know that there is actually a law that protects students rights and what you as a faculty member can divulge.
- www.training.uni.edu
- Err on the side of providing less rather than more.
- Heavily encourage talking with a student! We can share anything with a student! Foster as much relationship as possible between parent and student.
- What are the penalties for breaking FERPA?
 - Technically, we use funding for the institution.
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