

IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers

Knowledgeable

Thinkers

Communicators

Principled

Open-minded

Caring

Risk-takers

Balanced

Reflective

For more detailed information and explanation of each attribute of the Learner Profile, visit the PYP page of the College Gardens website or visit: <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/profile/>



Vision

As an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme World School, we will provide an engaging and open-minded learning community where all members collaborate respectfully to challenge and motivate one another within a safe and nurturing environment.

Mission

We develop and support a successful and inclusive environment where all students actively participate in and assume ownership of their learning. As a unified staff and community, we create a rigorous instructional program, which promotes globally minded, creative, confident, and reflective lifelong learners.

College Gardens Elementary School
An International Baccalaureate
Primary Years Programme World School

1700 Yale Place ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850
phone: 301.279.8470 ♦ fax: 301.279.8473
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/collegegardenses



College Gardens
Elementary School

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

Parents, teachers, and students partnering to strengthen student ownership of their own learning to develop the Learner Profile



Form

What is it like?

Student-led conferences involve the student and the parent. The students are responsible for leading the conference, and also take responsibility for their learning by sharing the process with their parents. It may involve students demonstrating their understanding through a variety of different learning situations.

The conference involves the students discussing and reflecting upon samples of work that they have previously chosen to share with their parents. These samples have been selected with guidance and support from the teacher, and could be from the student's portfolio. The student identifies strengths and areas for improvement. It enables parents to gain a clear insight into the kind of work their child is doing and offers an opportunity for them to discuss it with their child. The conferences are carefully prepared, and time is set aside for the students to practice.

Function

How does it work?

Parents and teachers must determine an agreed upon fifteen minute conference time during the two half-day Montgomery County Public Schools designated dates. Parents will bring their child to the classroom at which time the student will begin with introductions and start the conference. The student will follow the planned agenda and use self-management skills to monitor and use the time wisely. At the conclusion, participants will set goals and students will conclude the conference with a fond farewell. Classroom teachers may have designed a conference reflection station to seek feedback from parents and students following the fifteen minute conference.

Causation

Why is it like it is?

To put our mission in action, College Gardens aims to put students at the center of learning and assume ownership of their development. It is our vision that our learning environment is inclusive of parents, teachers, and students. We embrace this vision and work to ensure it is safe and nurturing and allows for risk-taking and commitment to be demonstrated by all.

Montgomery County Public Schools has implemented standards-based grading and reporting. This new process gives specifics regarding student proficiency by measurement topics in each content area. Using this new model, College Gardens is able to embrace the IB promoted student-led conference model while collaborating for student success.

Gators Give Back

Action as Service

The action component of the PYP can involve service in the widest sense of the word: service to fellow students, and to the larger community, both in and outside the school. Through such service, students are able to grow both personally and socially, developing skills such as cooperation, problem solving, conflict resolution, and creative and critical thinking. Moreover, these actions are ways in which the students exhibit their commitment to the attributes of the learner profile and to the attitudes that we seek to engender.

"Take part, give from the heart!"

We have partnered with the City of Rockville for their annual Holiday Drive. When you attend the conference we ask that, if you can, please bring a food donation. Boxes will be set up in the main lobby for items such as canned vegetables or fruit, canned soup, cranberry sauce, or turkey gravy. Tomato paste and sauce are also appreciated.



RESPONSIBILITY

What is our responsibility?

Parents should:

- Request a conference time that fits your schedule while respecting the MCPS designated times; if a conflict arises, reschedule with the teacher
- Bring your child with you; the student leads this type of conference with support from the teacher
- If possible, bring a food donation for our Thanksgiving drive in partnership with the City of Rockville
- Listen carefully to what your child has to say about his/her strengths, weaknesses, and goals; ask clarifying questions
- Expect your child to synthesize his/her learning; this is not "show and tell"
- Review your child's goals carefully; offer specific support your family can provide
- Behavior/work habits are critical to success at school; analyze these carefully
- Ask your child and the teacher questions to help you better understand your child's progress
- Visit other learning environments such as art room, gymnasium, recess, ESOL room, media center, or music room
- Schedule another conference if you need to meet privately with the teachers regarding an issue you feel cannot be discussed with your child

