6th grade Honors Reading and Language Arts

**Desert Hills Middle School**

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November 14, 2013- **FALL STUDENT LED CONFERENCES COMING UP**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I wanted to inform you I will be holding student-led **conferences** on **Monday, November 25th from 12:45-7:45pm.** Student led conferences have been occurring over the past several years with great success. When students are well prepared over an extended period to tell the story of their own success they seem to experience a fundamental shift in their internal sense of responsibility for that success. The pride in accomplishment that students feel when they have positive stories to tell and tell it well can be immensely motivational.

*Why Student led conferences?*

**Student Benefits:**

1. Accountability for their learning

2. Students gain greater commitment to school work and learning

3. Encourages student/parent communication

4. Builds communication and critical thinking skills

5. Allows students to become actively involved

**Parent Benefits**:

1. Increases the amount of information given to the parents

2. Learn more about their student’s learning and skills

3. An opportunity to help their student set positive goals

4. Active participant in their student’s learning.

*How it works*

* All conferences with parent and child will be held with me.
* I would like to have parents **or** an important relative or significant adult in the student’s life to come with their child and sit side by side to review their portfolio. The portfolio contains grade work samples and reflections on the work, individual goals, and copies of their past and current grade in both reading and language arts.
* Conference sessions will be brief because all 6th grade and 8th grade teachers will be set up in an arena in the commons area.
* If you are not able to come at your designated hour, please feel free to come at a more convenient time on Monday.

My goal is for 100% of my students to be represented by a significant adult in their life to share their goals and the academic progress of their previous and current quarter. Please help your child by going to [*http://missveleke.weebly.com*](http://missveleke.weebly.com) and rsvp to conferences. If you are not able to come to conferences because of another conflict, no worries. I have told the students that I would meet with them during their lunch time and go through their portfolio with them.

Thank you for your support,

Morgan Veleke

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