

## **Parent-Teacher Scenarios**

### **Scenario One**

Your student's mom shows up at your door five minutes before the bell rings to start class. This parent wants to know the grade that her son has in your class (he's failing, and you have already exchanged several emails) and wants to explain why her son will not be taking an assessment with the rest of the class later that day. Due to his participation in a local swim meet the evening prior, he was unable to study.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Two**

During a parent-teacher conference the grandfather (who is the legal guardian) of your student says that he does not know what to do with his grandson anymore. He cannot control his grandson's behavior; he cannot force him to try or to his homework. The grandfather is at a loss. During the meeting, the student sits and plays videogames on his phone.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Three**

A distraught parent sends you an email on a Friday morning and asks to schedule a meeting with you on that day to discuss her child's progress. You have two meetings during your planning period, lunch duty, and a club meeting scheduled for after school.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Four**

A parent finds out that her daughter is having issues with bullying. Despite the emails you have sent for nine consecutive weeks, the parent arrives in the principal's office and demands a conference with you immediately.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Five**

At a local restaurant on a Friday night while you are having dinner with your family, a parent comes up to your table and begins discussing her child's behavior in your class. *With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Six**

One of your students has an Individualized Education Plan and is not taking advantage of modifications outlined in the plan. You realize this and schedule a parent conference, inviting the parent, student, special education caseworker, and guidance counselor. The parent believes the student needs the modifications the student refuses to use them. *With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Seven**

A parent calls and emails constantly asking for information about upcoming events and probing for information about situations taking place in the classroom setting. Just yesterday, you replied to a request for field trip dates for the year and costs for the theatre assembly occurring next week. Another phone message arrives today while you are teaching related to school supplies. By the end of the day, you have two emails from the same parent relating to upcoming student projects you have posted on your website.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*

### **Scenario Eight**

As a beginning teacher, you recognize the need to partner with families to improve learning. You are attending evening activities and almost no parents are attending. Also, you have five parents who have not scheduled mandatory meetings for this year and are not responding to your notes home.

*With your group members, role play this scenario and discuss its implications for the student, for the teacher, and for the family member.*