

# STRESSFUL PARENT MEETINGS

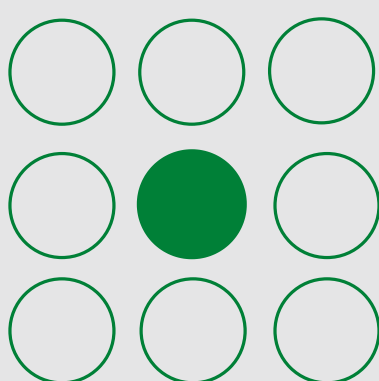
Simple steps to success



1

## HAVE A LISTENING MINDSET

Ask the parent what brings them in today. Actively listen for however long it takes. Respond with your body language but don't interject. Ensure the parent feels listened to, validated and heard.



2

## DETERMINE THE CORE ISSUE

Often in these situations there are a number of minor issues. Discern the heart of the issue. By not addressing every aspect initially the conflict deescalates.



3

## CHECK IF THERE IS ANYTHING ELSE

Thank them and affirm to them for what you think the fundamental issue is. It is also a good tactic to ask if they are happy for you to now respond.



4

## YOUR TURN

Respond with assertiveness. You may find the parent tries to interrupt. It might be helpful to say something along the lines of "thankyou and I hear you, but I have given you the courtesy of listening to you so please extend to me same and then we can discuss afterwards".

Hopefully be the time you have responded the parent will hear that you are all on the same page, want the best outcome for the child and are going to work together to achieve that.



5

## A COLLABORATIVE SOLUTION

As the meeting starts to draw to a close, make sure there are some plans moving forward. These plans should be things that you will do, the parent will do, and the student needs to put into place. The onus should never be on you to do everything. Teaching is a partnership.



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## FINAL TIP

Where it is appropriate, it is always better to have the student present at the meeting. It builds relationship and trust.

