



Bellmore – Merrick Central High School District Grand Avenue Middle School

Office of the Principal
Carlo A. Conte



October 14, 2016

Dear Parents,

The Middle School Parent/Teacher Conference sessions are scheduled for **Thursday afternoon, November 17 from 12:30 PM until 3:30 PM** and that same evening, **from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM**. Please be reminded that this will be a half day for students. As we did for the first time last year, we will use an online parent-teacher conference scheduling tool called ***Teacher Reacher***.

Effective Sunday, October 30 at 3:00 PM, the sign up process for Parent-Teacher Conferences will be implemented through *Teacher Reacher* (www.teacherreacher.com/csite). The window for conference registration will **close on Sunday, November 13 at 3:00 PM**.

Step by step instructions for creating your account and begin using the *Teacher Reacher* are located at the conclusion of this letter. This activation process is five easy steps. You are encouraged to follow steps one through three **prior to** the sign up opening (October 30). Please follow steps four and five beginning at 3:00 PM **on** October 30. Most middle school teachers have 84 time slots in which to meet with parents. Locate teachers by their departments to book appointment slots. By clicking on a teacher's name you will be able to see which time slots are still available.

IMPORTANT NOTE #1:

*When scheduling your appointments, **please DO NOT schedule your appointments back to back.** You will need time to travel from one conference location to the other. Therefore, please have at least one conference time slot (this will give you four minutes to travel) separating each conference you schedule.*

If you have specific concerns about your child, there is a text box available for you to notify the teacher. Upon securing a conference time, please print the form(s) for each meeting which will give you the teacher's name, time, and conference location. If you do not have access to a computer or if you are having difficulty creating a user name and password, please call Ann Kaprat in Central Administration prior to October 30 at 992-1042 and she will assist you.

Steps to Access Teachers' Sign-Up Forms

- Go to www.teacherreacher.com/csite
- Click on "Sign up"
- Choose "Bellmore-Merrick", followed by completing the remaining fields
- Follow the instructions on the site under "CREATE AN ACCOUNT?"



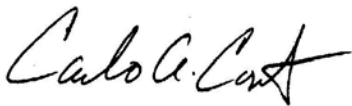
**** If you have used TeacherReacher in the past, your account is still active and you do not need to create a new account!**

IMPORTANT NOTE #2

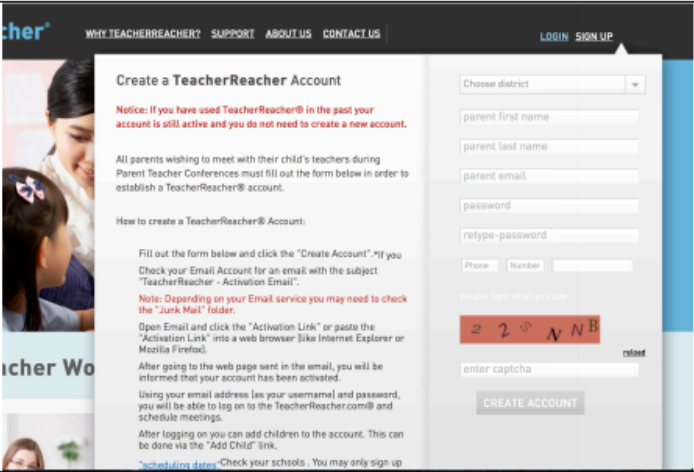
*To afford as many parents the opportunity for conferences, we have created the 4-minute timeframe. For this scheduling plan to work well for all, **please know that teachers must limit conferences to the prescribed four minutes.** It is important to use your brief time wisely. The purpose of the Parent-Teacher Conference is to meet your child's teacher, to review his or her progress and, if necessary, to discuss what should be done to maximize student success. Forging a partnership with the teacher so that the home and school can work together is the ultimate goal of the conference.*

If you need extended time to discuss serious academic issues, you should make a private appointment to see your child's teacher on another occasion. There simply won't be enough time, or sufficient privacy, for lengthy, personal discussions during these 4-minute conference sessions. Our goal through this process is to make the sign up procedure easy and convenient, and to eliminate long lines for conferences. If you have any problems, please let us know.

Sincerely,



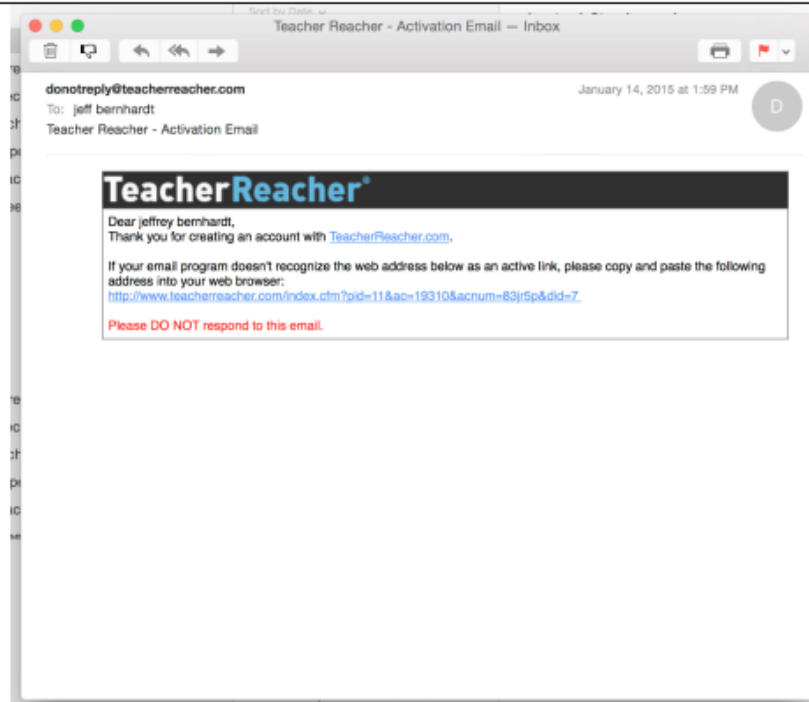
Carlo A. Conte
Principal
Grand Avenue MS
Bellmore-Merrick CHSD

TeacherReacher®	
Step 1 Create Account You can create an account with our company by filling out the form below on the www.teacherreacher.com website: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Click the "SignUp" link in the upper right corner• Select your school district• Enter your first and last name• Enter your email address• Enter a password• Enter the Captcha code• Check your email account for an activation email from donotreply@teacherreacher.com	
	

Step 2

Activate your Account

Check your email account for an email from admin@teacherreacher.com.
Open email and click link inside.



Step 3

Add Children

- Select the school
- Enter Child's Name (as registered in the school district)
- Enter the Child's birth date
- Click "Find Student"
- Select the correct student from the list below.
- Click "Add Student"
- Repeat.

A screenshot of the TeacherReacher website's "Add Children" interface. The top navigation bar includes "TeacherReacher" and links for "MY ACCOUNT", "CONFERENCE SCHEDULER", "ADD CHILD", "SUPPORT", and "LOGOUT". The main content area is titled "CURRENT CHILDREN" and shows "No Children Registered". Below this is a "SEARCH DATABASE" section with a "Choose School" dropdown menu set to "Demo Middle School". It also includes input fields for "First Name" (containing "mary"), "Last Name" (containing "bernhardt"), and "Birth Date" (set to "May 28 2009"). A "FIND STUDENT" button is located at the bottom of the search form.

Step 4

Schedule Appointments Part 1

Click on the "MAKE APPT." link under the **Conference** name.

Note: You can only make appointments when scheduling is open.

Click the Scheduling Dates link to see when scheduling will be open.

The screenshot shows the TeacherReacher interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: MY ACCOUNT, CONFERENCE SCHEDULER, ADD CHILD, SUPPORT, and LOGOUT. Below this, there are two main sections. The left section is titled "Larry Parent's PTC Schedule" and contains two tables. The first table is for "Core" and the second is for "Elective". Both tables have columns for Date/Time, Room, Teacher, Student, Swap, and Delete. The right section is titled "Demo Middle School Conference Dates" and contains a table for "Julie Student" with columns for Date and Appointment Total. Below this, there are two rows of appointment slots, each with a "Type" column and a "Current / Max Appts." column. The first row is for "Test Parent Teacher 1" on 01/09/15, with a "Scheduling Closed" status. The second row is for "Parent Teacher Demo" on 02/27/15, with a "MAKE APPT." link.

Larry Parent's PTC Schedule					
Core					
Date/Time	Room	Teacher	Student	Swap	Delete
01/09/15 2:50 - 3:00		Erbe	Julia Student	Closed	Closed
02/27/15 2:50 - 3:00		Dr. Danker	Julia Student	Closed	Closed

Elective					
Date/Time	Room	Teacher	Student	Swap	Delete
01/09/15 2:30 - 2:40		Dr. Anderson	Julia Student	Closed	Closed

Demo Middle School Conference Dates	
Julie Student	
Date	Appointment Total
Test Parent Teacher 1 01/09/15 Scheduling Closed	Type: Current / Max Appts. Core: 1 / 3 Elec.: 1 / 2
Parent Teacher Demo 02/27/15 MAKE APPT.	Type: Current / Max Appts. Core: 1 / 4 Elec.: 0 / 2

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Step 5 – Sorted by Department

Schedule Appointments Part 2

- Click on an Academic Department.
- Click on a teacher.
- Choose an available time.
- Click the "Submit" button.
- Go back to **Step 4** and repeat

The screenshot shows the TeacherReacher interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: MY ACCOUNT, CONFERENCE SCHEDULER, ADD CHILD, SUPPORT, and LOGOUT. Below this, there is a sidebar on the left with a list of departments: CORE, ART, Michael Depenna, Janice Learner, Jennifer Munz, Larry Sands, ENGLISH, ESL, MATH, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, SOC STUD, TECH, ELECTIVE, FAMCONS, and HOME AND CAREERS. The main content area is titled "Choose Time" and contains a list of time slots. The 2:50 PM - 3:00 PM slot is selected, and a message below it says "you have an appt. at this time". Below the time slots, there is a section for "Suggested topics for conference" with checkboxes for Grades, Behavior, Homework, and Tests. At the bottom, there is a text input field for "Enter specific questions" with a character count of "You have 100 characters left." and a "MAKE APPOINTMENT" button.

IMPORTANT NOTE #2

To afford as many parents the opportunity for conferences, we have created the 4-minute timeframe. For this scheduling plan to work well for all, please know that teachers must limit conferences to the prescribed four minutes.

It is important to use your brief time wisely. The purpose of the *Parent-Teacher Conference* is to meet your child's teacher, to review his or her progress and, if necessary, to discuss what should be done to maximize student success. Forging a partnership with the teacher so that the home and school can work together is the ultimate goal of the conference.

If you need extended time to discuss serious academic issues, you should make a private appointment to see your child's teacher on another occasion. There simply won't be enough time, or sufficient privacy, for lengthy, personal discussions during these 4-minute conference sessions.

Reminder

Parent-Teacher Conference Day, November 17th, is a half day and students will be following the schedule below:

Parent-Teacher Middle School Time Schedule

Period	Length (mins)	Time
1	20	7:56am to 8:16am
2	20	8:20am to 8:40am
3	20	8:44am to 9:04am
4	20	9:08am to 9:28am
5	24	9:32am to 9:56am
6	24	10:00am to 10:24am
7	24	10:28am to 10:52am
8	20	10:56am to 11:16am
9	20	11:20am to 11:40pm

MISSION STATEMENT: *In pursuit of excellence, Grand Avenue Middle School strives to create an academically challenging, socially equitable and developmentally appropriate learning environment which will equip each student to thrive in our school and the global community. Within Grand Avenue's culture of being **Compassionate, Accountable, Respectful, Equitable** and **Strong**, we encourage every student to learn well, stay safe, participate and graduate, empowering all to become productive citizens.*