

These were questions that I had asked the parent during the visit.

1) What is a typical day like at home?

Kids get up; get dressed; and come down for breakfast. After breakfast, they watch TV (or do homework if it was not finished) Dad takes Daisy to School and Mom takes Nico to School. In the afternoon, Dad picks up both kids (unless Nico has football then Mom picks him up). Kids do their chores; have snacks; and do homework. Mom comes home. We have dinner and Daisy practices her instruments and Nico goes back to his homework. The kids go to bed no later than 830p on a school night.

2) Are there any career goals/ dreams you have for your child?

For Nico, it is for him to develop a trade that he can make a living with. Nico is focused on computers (software, games, etc.) We would like him to develop a trade in the area of electronics. Daisy, at this time, is too young to think past high school.

3) How does your child feel about school? ?

It depends. He likes school for its extracurricular activities. He likes certain subjects – but that depends on his feelings about the teachers. How do you feel about the St. Elizabeth High school? For Nico it was a good fit. St Liz is a small school (small student body size); and is affordable for a family that has two children in Catholic schools.

4) What is his relationship like with his sister?

OK for the most part.. They have a typical love /hate relationship. They play together until they get on each other's nerve. Then they don't speak to each other for a while and then they are back to being friends.

5) Do you attend any of the activities that he is apart of?

School sports – one of us will attend on home games –when we can.

6) How do you feel about your neighborhood?

Uncomfortable but it is home.

7) What is your child's personality like at home?

He is ADHD and a teenager, therefore, his personality is constantly changing.

8) What are his like (hobbies)?

Ping pong; reading; playing games.

9) Do you know what happens at school? (i.e. does he tell you what goes on at school?)

Some, he'll talk about the extracurricular items. Not much regarding what goes on in the classroom. He is not forthcoming on the details of the day and will get irritated if pressed.

10) How important is family/culture to you?

Family is important.

11) What are your child's study habits?

He has no good study habits. Due to ADHD, he has trouble maintaining focus

for an extended period time; and organization. Nico is expected to do his homework when he gets home in his room. He will wait until the last minute to finish his assignments.

12) Do you remember a time of extreme frustration vs. confidence that Nico had?

Tell me about it. He gets extremely frustrated when he tries to explain himself, i.e. his present difficulties in Biology. For confidence, when he thinks he understands a subject or has done a task well, he will talk constantly about it to the point of irritation.

13) What responsibilities does your child have at home?

He has light chores such as taking out the garbage; setting the table; and keeping his room clean.

14) Tell me about your families history?

Mom is German. Parents came to Oakland from Pa. Father died in his mid 50's. Mom and her brother were raised by their mom. Dad is from the mid-west. Father is killed in WWII; and he was raised by his mother. Dad is an only child.

15) How long have you been in the area that you live?

What brought you here? I was born and raised this house.

16) How was your child's previous experiences in school?

It has been a rough 10 years, going through the 2 preschools; the Oakland Unified School System; 2 years of homeschooling; and catholic schools.

17) How does your family celebrate holidays?

- New Years Day – we watch the Rose Bowl
- 4th of July – we go to Alameda to watch the Alameda parade and later to watch the fireworks.
- Labor Day weekend – have a BBQ and invite friends
- Thanksgiving – we visit and have dinner with family
- Christmas – Celebrate Christmas by attending Mass and having dinner at home.

17) Do you have any family traditions?

Not family traditions – but we usually go to family members for thanksgiving (we bring the turkey). Go to Tito's Mexican Restaurant and a movie for Mom's birthday.

18) Do you and your family make things together at home?

What kinds of projects have you done? What was this experience like? No. Nico is at the stage of his life when he thinks he knows everything – and will not follow directions.

19) **What kinds of things do you do to help your child to be successful in school?**

Provide a quiet space for him to do his homework. We ensure that he gets all his books required for the school year prior to the start of school. We provide assistance with his homework when he asks.

20) **Did you enjoy school?**

If not, when did you begin to dislike school? Can you remember what caused you to feel this way? We both enjoyed school.

21) **Does Nico have any particular talent or gift early on?**

Nico did not possess any real inherent talent. He has taken 8 years of piano and plays well.