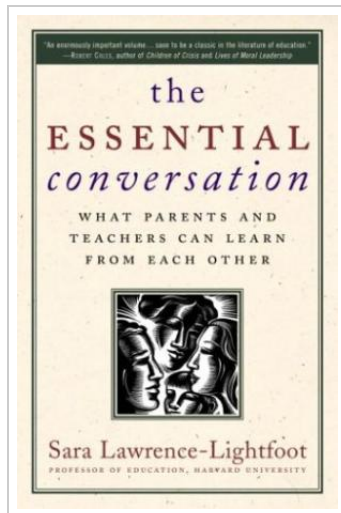




The Essential Conversation: What Parents and Teachers Can Learn from Each Other

By Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot

Random House USA Inc. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Essential Conversation: What Parents and Teachers Can Learn from Each Other, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, With the insights she has gleaned from her close and subtle observation of parent-teacher conferences, renowned Harvard University professor Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot has written a wise, useful book about the ways in which parents and teachers can make the most of their essential conversation--the dialogue between the most vital people in a child's life. "The essential conversation" is the crucial exchange that occurs between parents and teachers--a dialogue that takes place more than one hundred million times a year across our country and is both mirror of and metaphor for the larger cultural forces that define family-school relationships and shape the development of our children. Participating in this twice-yearly ritual, so friendly and benign in its apparent goals, parents and teachers are often wracked with anxiety. In a meeting marked by decorum and politeness, they frequently exhibit wariness and assume defensive postures. Even though the conversation appears to be focused on the student, adults may find themselves playing out their own childhood histories, insecurities, and fears. Through vivid portraits and parables, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot captures the dynamics of...



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