

# Validator Instructions

**VALIDATOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** Working in pairs, validators actively listen to each student during his or her 20-minute session, commenting and asking questions where appropriate, and providing positive written feedback afterward.

You will "validate" 2, 3, or 4 student sessions, depending on which slot you signed up for.

**STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:** Students are asked to present a portfolio that reflects their growth and accomplishments over the course of middle school. Often they will show you a specific piece of work, such as a term paper, or a test that they are particularly proud of. Others may perform (e.g. play piano, sing a song, recite a poem). Many will share a letter, often very touching, written by a proud parent.

*Please note that a student may show up empty-handed, sometimes claiming that they have nothing worthwhile to share. In this case, please refer to the list of questions (prepared by the 8th grade teaching team). Consider this a great opportunity to draw out and encourage a child who may not realize how much they have accomplished, and that they have abilities and opinions that an adult actually does want to hear about.*

Feel free to take notes during the student sessions.

Please offer the student a bag of Panther Passage Fortune Cookies when they are done.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:** As a validator, you will write your "response" on a comment form, typically in the form of a letter, after the presentations. Note that these letters will be given to the student later, *unedited*. You are welcome to sit in the library for as long as you need to finish your comments-- just make sure to return the forms to the hostess before you leave campus.

Please provide only positive, encouraging comments and try to be as specific as possible.

Examples:

"Your strong writing skills were sure evident in that humanities project."

"You must be so proud of yourself to have improved your math grades from 6th to 8th grade."

"What an enthusiastic robotics demonstration--your love of science was obvious."

"Please keep up with your singing [or cheerleading/basketball/volunteering, etc.] You are clearly talented, and should be proud of it!"

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE A FUN AND REWARDING EXPERIENCE.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR PARTICIPATING IN PANTHER PASSAGE!**