

Parent Teacher Conference Site Exception Ballot

Original Contract Language:

15.22 Parent Conferences

The Parent/Teacher conference day session may be five (5) hours or two (2) hours anytime during the normal school business conference day with the understanding that, comparable time for conferences for the remaining three (3) hours may be done in the following manner:

- (a) Conferences held the prior evening between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.; unless
- (b) An alternative school-wide evening conference is designated during the conference week through the determination of the School Department Committee, provided that the conferences are held between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

28.7 Parent-Teacher Meetings and School Programs

Each school may have a maximum of one (1) formally arranged parent-teacher meeting during the school year at which staff attendance is required. Additional meetings and/or school programs may be held, but staff attendance shall be strictly voluntary.

Revised Language:

Staff and administration will forsake the one formally arranged parent teacher meeting [28.7] (which SHS has used as the Fall Open House) and standardize Parent/Teacher Conference hours so all staff will be in the building at the same times on October 27 and 28. Should the site exemption pass, exact hours (total of 7 hours, minimum of 2 hours on 10/28) will be determined by staff ballot.

Supporting Detail:

- The figure of seven (7) hours is in alignment with other district high schools.
- A prior SHS Site Exemption was turned down by ETA when it attempted to specify five (5) combined hours for conferences and open house.
- The model of approving an exemption regarding conferences then determining hours by staff ballot mirrors Bartlett and Elgin High School processes.
- The goal of this site exemption is for all staff to be present in the school for the same seven (7) hours on the Thursday and Friday to better serve our community.
- ISBE mandates two (2) hours of conferences on the second day for the day to count for teacher attendance.
- Staff will individually determine where in the building they will be available to meet with parents. This site exemption carries no expectation that staff will be in the gym, cafeteria, or other determined location. Conference locations will remain at individual staffs' discretion.
- Staff will tell administration where they are planning to hold their conferences. Administration will provide a master list of locations to parents.
- Necessary staff absences (i.e. attending one's own child's conference) will be addressed with individual divisionals as needed.
- Administration is investigating the possibility of an online conference sign up for parents.
- This motion will pass with 75% of ballots cast being in favor of the motion.

_____ **I vote YES to approve the site exception to eliminate a school program (28.7) and standardize times for Parent Teacher conferences (15.22). This means that I understand that this alters the contract (as stated above).**

_____ **I vote NO to altering the contract regarding Parent Conferences (15.22) and School Programs (28.7).**