

Minutes  
October 5, 2005

Present: Sarah Dickerson, Lester Hampton, Jeff Hill, Bonnie Laesch, Jim Potter  
Absent: Mike Sondgeroth

Lester gave an overview of the proposal currently before Keystone Council regarding possible change in format of the spring parent-teacher conferences.

*To encourage parent contact in the spring, without scheduled P/T conferences, we could try an open format, informal open house. The evening would begin with a cookout. Hopefully the Boosters Club would be willing to sponsor this event. The focus for the evening would be on departments. Teachers within the department would design how they wish to showcase their department or individual classes for the parents that evening. Suggestions for the evening might include: 1) preview upcoming work 2) showcase or display class projects 3) open format for parents' questions, etc.*

A discussion followed with advantages and disadvantages to the changes being weighed.

Jeff likes the idea of the social time, but the problems lie with the parents who want to discuss the performance of their student who may be near-failing or failing. These parents may want a more private setting for their conference, so we discussed how to make that happen. A suggestion was also made to encourage the use of Edline, which can complement the parent-teacher conference process. Also, the point was made that the timing of conferences affects conference turnout (i.e. fall conferences could be moved to beginning of October rather than November).

A decision was made to survey the parents to see if they prefer the open format or the scheduled format and if they would prefer to meet in classrooms or in another setting, as well as the timing issue. Lester and Bonnie will meet soon to create the survey. Copies will be put in mailboxes for faculty review.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Laesch