

SOUTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Scott Feder
Superintendent of Schools



Jennifer K. Diszler
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction and Administration

David E. Pawlowski
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

Kimberly Maloy-White
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

IMPORTANT PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER 5TH

October 23, 2018

Dear South Brunswick Families,

As you are aware, we have made an adjustment to the format of our conferences by moving from four half days to one full day. We do believe that this way provides better continuity for student learning by having a full week off and the elimination of the half days that were traditional to the November calendar. The other area that is new to some levels will be the electronic sign-up. We will be using our Genesis software to assist in what we hope will be a smooth scheduling for all. Please follow your school's communications in this regard.

Going further than the parent teacher conference, with Genesis, we are able to exchange data more frequently and easily with parents over the course of the school year, changing the way we partner with parents. This is a theme we will continue to explore with the community.

THE SPECIFICS:

Parent/Teacher conferences on November 5th, will be from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (please see the list below for the times for your child's school level). While the total amount of available conferencing time is equal to that in the past, when building the schedule for the day, it was important for us to allow for flexibility for our parents. To assist, we did make the evening window four hours long for most multi-level scenarios with the goal of making it possible and even realistic for parents to make it to both in one evening. To this end, the following times have been established for each level:

High School	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Middle School	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Elementary School	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The overlap for elementary and high school is deliberate, with the middle school bridging the gap, as we want to extend the window for the evening conferences to four hours (4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.) in case families have children at more than one level.

Please keep in mind, that as always, speaking, meeting and communicating with your child's teachers in no way needs to wait until the arbitrary period of P/T conferences. Do not feel as though you have to wait for these time periods each year. We encourage you to reach out whenever you feel the need to talk or learn about your child's programs and progress. November 5th is simply a date that fell nicely into the calendar this year, but in no way signifies the "right" time to meet and communicate with your child's teachers. Our teachers are always here to communicate with you about your child.

In closing, please note that we do not have plans for spring conferences. Our plan is to gather feedback to make informed decisions regarding the traditional “conference” windows. We understand that change can be difficult. So, while nothing is going to be perfect, we are trying to imagine a different process for communicating from home to school and school to home. As previously mentioned, you do not need a “conference window” to communicate with teachers.

At the conclusion of the conference day, you will be asked to complete a short survey on the experience and your preferences. All we can ask at this time is to keep an open mind.

Thank you all in advance and I look forward to your survey at the conclusion of conferences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

Scott Feder
Superintendent of Schools