

# Fall Conferences Frequently Asked Questions



## When are Fall Conferences?

Conferences will be held on Thursday, 10/17 and Friday, 10/18, 2019. On Thursday conferences will be held from 2:30-4:30 and 5:00-7:00 pm. On Friday conferences will be from 7:30-11:30 am.

## How do I schedule a conference?

Columbia River uses the “Arena Style” conferencing format, so you don’t need to schedule a conference. All the teachers will be available at tables in the main gym. Teachers will be available on a walk-up basis. This format appeals to us because we are all in the same space for conversations about academic progress.

## Who do I meet with? How do I know?

You may choose to meet with all your student’s teachers, or just a few. We recommend reviewing your student’s current progress using Family Access (Skyward). Student mid-quarter progress reports were sent home this week (October 14-16). We will have staff available during conferences to print out student schedules if they are needed.

## How do I know if a teacher is available, or if they are not available?

Most teachers will be available for all of the scheduled conference time. However, some teachers may be available for only part of the time, or may have conflicts so they are not available at all. Check the “**Conference Conflict**” list on our website for updated information about teacher availability. Many teachers have already sent out emails to students and families with information about conference availability.

### **How long is a conference?**

The design of the parent/teacher conference is to be a short (roughly 10 minutes) discussion on your student's progress and performance over the first part of school. This is a great time for you, as a partner in the learning, to ask your own clarifying questions about the larger objectives of the course.

### **What if I feel I need a longer time, or want to meet in private?**

Our staff is always available to conference before school, after school, or during their prep period. If an extended conference is desired, it is best to schedule that with the teacher directly. Counselors can also participate in those conversations as well if desired.

### **Are Counselors available during conferences?**

The counseling staff is available both Thursday and Friday. They will have tables set up in the Gym for general information and quick conversations.

### **Do I have to come to conferences? Do I bring my student?**

We recognize that not all parents and guardians are able to fit Fall Conferences into their schedules. While this is an opportunity to meet your student's teachers, conferences are not required. Students may attend conferences, or a parent may choose to visit with teachers on their own.

### **Are Interpreters available for conferences?**

We will have a Spanish-speaking interpreter available to assist with conferences on Thursday from 5-7 pm and on Friday from 8-10 am. If an interpreter is needed for another language, please contact our Counseling office at 360-313-3930.

### **What if I have other questions about conferences?**

Please email Mr. Rob Duncan ([rob.duncan@vansd.org](mailto:rob.duncan@vansd.org)) or your student's counselor.