

This email is going to all PFT Members

February 10, 2022

Dear PFT Members,

At tonight's School Board Meeting, the district announced final bell schedules for next school year, initiated by the need to comply with SB-328, which takes effect no later than July 1, 2022. This legislation requires middle schools to begin no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and high schools no earlier than 8:30 a.m.

As part of these changes, PUSD has decided to implement a district-wide common late start day for secondary schools (Wednesdays) and a district-wide common early out day for elementary schools (Thursdays). The district has shared with PFT they believe a consistent late start day at secondary and an early out day for elementary will support students and families and that it will benefit teachers who might be interested in collaborating across schools.

Program changes such as this are outside of the traditional scope of bargaining, so the district is within its rights to decide to make this change. The PFT Executive Board expressed concerns about these potential changes prior to this decision being made by PUSD. The impacts and effects of this change may alter working conditions, and if so, are negotiable.

These changes will also impact the length of the instructional bell schedule at some sites. We do not believe there will be an increase to the actual workday (workday = 7 hours plus a minimum 30-minute duty-free lunch plus professional responsibilities). However, sites may be impacted by increases in their student bell schedule (no more than 10 minutes). PFT has been told the configuration of this time will be a collaborative site decision and may include changes to passing periods, lunchtime, instructional time, etc.

You will hear more details from your site principal tomorrow. Please share any concerns you have regarding impacts and effects of these changes with your PFT Site Rep so we can identify and address any items outlined in our bargaining agreement (such as hours of employment). We will be meeting as a Rep Council next Wednesday, February 16, 2022.
In Unity,

Kelly