



How to Conduct a Post Parents' Night

One of the most successful programs developed by posts in many councils is an annual post parents' night held in February or March. This is a good opportunity to "show off" posts to the parents of Explorers, many of whom might not know much about Exploring.

Objectives

The objectives for a parents' night include the following:

- To give Explorers a chance to show their parents what they have done in the post.
- To recognize the post's participating organization for its time, expense, and workforce.
- To inform parents about Exploring and involve them in future program planning.

- Possibly to give parents the opportunity to support the continuing success of Exploring by their financial support of Learning for Life.

Promotion Ideas

Make every effort to get all the parents of active Explorers to attend. Ideas that posts have used include formal invitations sent to parents, personal letters from the Advisor or participating organization, telephone committees, and good salesmanship by Explorers in urging their parents to come.

Program Planning

The post committee, Advisor, and officers select a suitable date during February or March. The key leadership of

the participating organization should be involved in planning the program. Make every effort to show the best that the participating organization and post have available—displays, slides, tours, and demonstrations.

The program should be carefully reviewed with post participants and committee participants. Get everyone involved. Invite the top executive of the participating organization. Most executives will be delighted to tell parents about their post. Ask a participant of the Learning for Life committee to explain the relationship between the participating organization and Learning for Life.

A suggested agenda for parents' night is shown on page Y-64.

PARENTS' NIGHT

Suggested Agenda

The meeting place depends on the post, participating organization, and specialty. Make it as interesting as possible.

- 6:45 P.M.** Set up meeting location, chairs, displays, room arrangements, decorations, welcome signs, name tags, etc.
- 7:10** Welcoming committee, consisting of two post participants and two committee participants, arrives. They arrange the area for signing in and handing out name tags.
- 7:30** Gathering time. Parents and post participants gather and view displays and demonstrations.
- 7:45** Meeting begins. Post president, post Advisor, and head of the participating organization welcome the parents and make introductions.
- 7:55** Tour of participating organization facility (if possible); one group or several, as needed.
- 8:15** Presentation by post officers and participants. A visual (if possible) and verbal explanation of your post's operation. The report should present the post's organization, its relationship to the participating organization, specialty activities, and participation in Learning for Life activities. Highlight experiences and career preparation.
- 8:45** Explanation of relationship between participating organization and Learning for Life:
- Purpose of Exploring
 - Learning for Life and Exploring
 - Explorer post
 - Learning for Life staff adviser and/or Learning for Life committee participant
 - Participating organizations—Learning for Life relationship
 - How post was organized
 - Learning for Life's support of post program
 - How Learning for Life is financed—request for parents' support of Learning for Life
 - Questions and answers
- 9:15** Adjournment—refreshments and fellowship