

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCILS FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Last Revised

July 22, 2014

2125 - SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCILS FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Florida statutes provide that each advisory council shall be composed of the principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers, education support employees, students, parents, and other business and community citizens who are representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school, provided that vocational-technical center and high school advisory councils shall include students, and middle and junior high school advisory councils may include students. A majority of members of each council must be persons not employed by the School District. A simple majority is defined as fifty-one percent (51%) of the membership or one-half (1/2) of the number of members plus one (1). The number of parent representatives shall at least be equal to the number of teacher representatives.

The Board shall review the membership composition of each advisory council. School advisory councils for school improvement and accountability will comply with procedures set forth in Florida statutes and Florida State Board of Education Administrative Rules.

Membership

Council members representing teachers, education support employees, students, and parents shall be elected by their respective peer groups at the school in a fair and equitable manner.

Business and other community members shall be selected by the school according to the written procedures for the school advisory councils for school improvement and accountability.

Election of Members

Advisory councils shall include the following procedures for elections:

- A. Advance notice of election with a specific election date and an opportunity for write-in nominations and ballots for those unable to be present at the election;
- B. Ample advance notice will be given for nominations of all interested persons in the following categories **before** elections are held;
- C. Teachers shall be elected by teachers;
- D. Education support employees shall be elected by education support employees;
- E. Students shall be elected by students; and
- F. Parents shall be elected by parents.

Participation of Members

Advisory councils shall include criteria for active participation by members of the council, and procedures for replacement of council members who fail to meet these requirements.

Duties

- A. School Improvement Plans Process - Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability
 1. Each school advisory council shall assist in the preparation and evaluation of the school improvement plan. The plan shall be based on an analysis of student achievement and other school performance data. School improvement plans are submitted to the Board for approval. Any District review or revision of the school improvement plan in preparation for presentation to the Board must be done with the collaboration and approval of the school

advisory council.

2. The Board approves or declines to approve each plan. If all plans are approved, the Superintendent and Board Chairman certify to the Commissioner of Education that the plans have been approved for the coming year together with any necessary report that a school has not made adequate progress. The plans themselves are not submitted to the Commissioner.
3. If a Board declines to approve a plan, in returning the plan to the school advisory council for revision it must state: (a) the elements within the plan it found to be problematic, and (b) recommendations for change which would enable the plan to be approved. The school advisory council is to then take the comments of the Board and consider revising and resubmitting the plan based upon the Board feedback. The Board then approves or disapproves any revision.

B. Annual Budget

With technical assistance from the Department of Education, each school advisory council shall assist in the preparation of the school's annual budget and plan. A portion of funds provided in the annual General Appropriations Act for use by school advisory councils must be used for implementing the school improvement plan.

C. School Recognition Funds

Should the school qualify for school recognition funds, the school advisory council shall participate in the determination of how these funds will be distributed in accordance with F.S. 1008.36. School recognition funds "must be used for purposes listed in F.S. 1008.36 as determined jointly by the school staff and school advisory council".

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Legal

F.S. 1001.41

F.S. 1001.42

F.S. 1001.452