



Albemarle County Public Schools Family Council

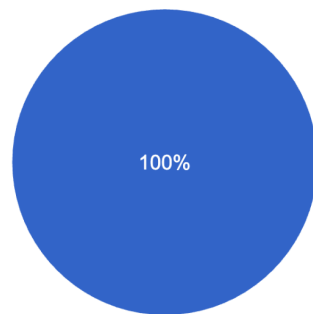
Vote Results on Name Change

See Info Provided At End of Doc

Count of Votes = 12 Reps via Form(plus 2 additional Yes via email)

Vote -- Do you agree that our organization should begin using the name "ACPS Family Council" starting immediately?

12 responses



- Yes -- I agree with changing our name to "ACPS Family Council" to be communicated starting immediately, and understand that an official vote will be held in fall 2023.
- No -- I prefer not to change our name.

Comments:

For consideration: ACPS Parent & Family Council - it aligns with PTO/PTSOs that use Parent in their names.

I support a move to Family over parent for the many reasons listed above. I also challenge the idea that a parent is only a mother or father as Parent is used as a title of its own by many in the gender diverse community. Family is all around more inclusive and appreciated regardless.

Love getting student voices heard! I'd do all. I had elementary kids with str9ng ideas too

ACTION –

We will begin using “ACPS Family Council” immediately, and will take an official vote to change our By-Laws to reflect the new name.

Info Provided on Google Form Ballot –

Over the past few years, ACPS Parent Council members have generally agreed on changing our name to "ACPS Family Council", but have not taken action. In the spring, the group of members agreed, but we decided to consider more deeply over the summer. The Officers have met and agreed to propose a name change for these key reasons:

- A "parent" is specifically defined as "a mother or a father", but in our community there are many adult caregivers involved in a child's life including children being raised by step-parents, grandparents, foster parents, etc.
- Using "family" is more inclusive, allowing us to respect the different caregivers who contribute meaningfully to a child's care and life.
- "Family" includes not only the adults but also children. Becoming "Family Council" allows us to also consider in future whether to engage high school students, which aligns better with the PTSOs that exist locally.

Important specifics on this vote:

- Changing our name requires a 2/3 vote to become official, which Officers will propose at a fall meeting with other potential edits to our ByLaws. This "Official" vote must be proposed at one meeting, with the vote occurring at the following meeting due to ByLaw edits required.
- This is an UNOFFICIAL vote (aka "Straw Poll") to confirm what Officers believe is widespread support.

What our ByLaws say (see [current version](#), adopted in spring 2023):

- We can conduct a digital vote.
- Quorum for voting is 25% of our members, which currently number 25. That means that if we receive only 6 votes, we can count the results as official. (Yes, we may increase this quorum % in the fall.)
- We vote by majority, so would vote to approve based on having over 50% of votes in affirmative (yes).
- There is one vote allowed per school and one per At-Large rep, so Co-Reps share a single vote.

What has not previously been written down, and we will be proposing in the fall (in Standing Rules or ByLaws):

- Our organization may hold votes to adopt Statements on key issues of importance to families.
- These may be posted publicly (on our website) and also sent to decision-makers.
- Results of votes will be shared numerically, with no reference to who voted which way recorded.
- Officers (4) receive a single vote (agreed verbally in spring, but ByLaws are vague & will be clarified).
- If there is significant disagreement, Officers may revise or retract statement. Minor revisions can be made without repeating vote if initial vote was over 50% affirmative.

How I've set up this digital vote:

- Does not track your email address.
- Does require listing school name, which is exclusively for the purpose of ensuring that each school has a single vote recorded.