

A school building council shall be established in each school building. The objective of this council shall be to improve the quality of education for all students by involving the whole school in sharing decision making responsibility with the Board of Education on matters related to curriculum and instruction. Members of the council will be selected by their constituent groups in each building. Teaching professionals represented by the Teachers Association bargaining unit must constitute at least 50% of the council members. Community members, administrators, support staff personnel, and students, where appropriate, will also be included on the council.

The school council shall undertake an annual planning process that includes, but is not limited to:

1. Using school performance information to improve student success.
2. Setting building instructional goals consistent with identified building needs and District standards of excellence.
3. Reviewing the organization and design of the instructional delivery system and student support services.
4. Maintaining a direct relationship with the K-12 Curriculum Committees and the District Staff Development Committee.
5. Evaluating student achievement in relation to the identified building goals and the District standards of excellence.
6. Developing a five-year building plan for achieving building goals and updating it annually.
7. Monitoring the progress of the plan.
8. Accepting responsibility for presenting the five-year plan to the Board of Education.
9. Reporting the results to the school community.

The building principal and the Teachers Association building president will act as co-coordinators for the school council. The council will determine its own ground rules and set its own meeting times and dates. All meetings will be open to the entire school community. Council decisions will be made within the constraints of Education Law, Board of Education Policy and Administrative Regulations, and negotiated agreements with District bargaining units.

SHARED DECISION MAKING

The Board of Education believes that educational quality is enhanced when stakeholders share decision making responsibility with the Board of Education on matters related to curriculum and instruction. The Board further believes that the actions taken to establish a school council in each building comply with the spirit of Section 100.11 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education adopted by the Board of Regents on March 27, 1992.

Section 100.11 requires every school district to develop and adopt by February 1, 1994, a plan for the participation by parents and teachers with administrators and school board members in school-based planning and shared decision making. In determining whether or not the present school councils, their membership selection procedures, and their role in school improvement planning comply with Section 100.11, the Board of Education will:

- consult with and provide for full participation by the designated representatives of the teachers, parents, and administrators as required by CR100.11;
- seek endorsement of the final plan for school-based planning and shared decision making by those designated representatives;

- adopt a plan by February 1, 1994;
- make the plan available to the public;
- file the plan with the District Superintendent at the Albany BOCES within thirty days of its adoption;
- submit the plan to the Commissioner of Education for approval within thirty days of its adoption.

Reviewed February 2000

Renumbered from P0440 – September 2015

Reviewed March 2008

Renumbered from P9270 – September 2015