

Presentation/Discussion on the Role of the School Community Council

**Board of Education
Student Achievement Committee
April 17, 2012**

What is a School Community Council (SCC)?

- Forum for open discussion and problem solving related to student achievement and school improvement.
- School-Based Council composed of principal, teachers, non-certificated staff, students, parents and community members.

Why were SCCs established?

Required by:

Act 51: Part V- Community Involvement
Establishing School Community Councils
at each school to provide a mechanism
whereby key stakeholders can have a
substantially increased voice in the
affairs of their local schools.

“Spirit” and Intent of Act 51

- Strengthen the ties between school and community.
- Provide a voice for all major stakeholder groups.
- Create opportunities for collaboration and partnership in the educational system.
- Focus on a shared goal of improving student achievement and system’s accountability.

SCC is composed of...

- The Principal

At least one member of the following groups:

- Teachers elected by teachers.
- Non-certificated support staff elected by non-certificated support staff.
- Student Representatives selected by the student council.
- Parent Representatives elected by parents.
- Community Representatives elected by parents.

Trustee of the School's Vision and Mission

- Acts as caretaker of the school.
- Functions in an advisory role.
- Practices good stewardship.
- Approaches issues from a unified perspective.
- Focuses decisions based upon what is best for ALL students.
- Contributes to the shared goal of improving student achievement.

SCC Roles and Responsibilities

SCC Responsibilities include:

- Review the AFP (Academic and Financial Plan) and provide recommendations.
- Review evidence of school progress on the implementation of the AFP on a quarterly basis.
- Participate in the principal selection and evaluation process (SCC Survey of the Principal).
- Submit requests for waivers to policies, rules, procedures and exceptions to collective bargaining agreements.
- Provide recommendations for revising or creating new school level policies and procedures.
- Provide opportunities for community input.
- Review principal's determination of school's repair and maintenance needs.

BOE Policy 2411 SCC

Decision Making Guidelines:

Provide an outline of decision making processes that may be used by the SCC; provided that each SCC decision making process includes a fallback procedure whereby the final recommendations of the SCC are made by majority vote, by the principal, or by some other method that is agreed upon by the SCC.

Decision Making (continued)

- The Principal may set aside any decision made by the SCC if determined to be in the best interest of the school with notification to the SCC.
- The SCC may appeal to the CAS for resolution and if necessary, to the Superintendent and finally to the BOE.
- The Superintendent may recommend to the BOE dissolution of an SCC or removal of any member, if deemed necessary.

BOE Policy 2412

SCC Waivers and Exceptions

- Designed to enhance flexibility in order to facilitate school improvement.
- Aligned with the school's AFP.
- Demonstrates how it will improve student learning and increase student achievement.
- Reflects a consensus of the school community.

SCC Waiver/Exception Approval Process

- SCC Educational Specialist reviews requests.
- Requests presented to SCC Exception Review Committee for recommendation.

HSTA Exception Review Committee:

- 2 HSTA Union members
- 2 BOE members

HGEA Exception Review Committee:

- 2 HGEA Union members
- 2 BOE members

SCC Waiver/Exception Approval Process (continued)

- BOE representatives from the SCC Exception Review Committee present requests to the Full Board for approval.
- School administrator or CAS may be present at BOE meeting for questions.

The Value of SCC Membership

- Become an important partner in the educational system.
- Contribute to the shared goal of improving student achievement.
- Have a vehicle through which to express opinions and share ideas.
- Be able to keep informed about what is happening at the school.

Resources from the SCC Website

Department of Education SCC Website:

<http://iportal.k12.hi.us/SCC/>

- Information about SCCs
 - Purpose
 - Listing of Council Members
- Downloads
 - SCC Handbook II
 - Forms and Templates
 - Training Modules
 - Link to SCC E-Learning Course
- SCC Self-Assessment Survey On-Line