

The board believes that local support and community involvement are necessary for the development of sound educational programs. The board also believes that a close working relationship must be maintained between the school and the school community, and that advisory councils serve as an important vehicle for maintaining this essential working relationship.

Advisory councils shall function as an advisory body only, and neither the council nor its individual members shall have any authority to act on behalf of a school, the superintendent, or the board, unless such authority has been specifically granted by the board.

A. SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCILS**1. Duties of School Advisory Councils**

The duties of each school advisory council shall include the following:

- a. To serve as a liaison between the board and the community;
- b. To advise the principal regarding the school community's interests and concerns;
- c. To assist the principal in understanding and responding to school and community needs;
- d. To assist the principal and school staff with school improvement projects; and
- e. To fulfill any other duties that the board may lawfully delegate to them.

2. Membership and Terms of Office

Each school advisory council shall consist of a minimum of five (5) parents, one (1) teacher, and the school principal. A high school's advisory council shall also include two (2) students. Other members may be appointed as appropriate.

Parent representatives will be appointed annually by the board at its regularly scheduled meeting in September. Teacher representatives will be appointed by each school's faculty. At the high school level, the student representatives will include the student body president and vice-president.

School advisory council members shall serve for a term of one (1) year, and members may be reappointed for a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms at each school.

3. Meetings and Officers

Each school advisory council shall meet at least four (4) times each school year.

Each school advisory council shall elect a chairperson at its first meeting. The principal shall serve as secretary to the school advisory council, and shall submit the minutes of each school advisory council meeting to the superintendent.

B. AD HOC ADVISORY COUNCILS

The board may appoint additional ad hoc advisory councils for any individual school, group of schools, or the school system. Ad hoc councils may be appointed to address any issue(s) as determined by the board.

C. OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Advisory councils are public bodies within the meaning of the North Carolina Open Meetings Law and are subject to all requirements of that law, including notice, closed sessions, minutes, voting, and penalties. Meetings will be open to the public, and efforts will be made as required by law to announce the date, time, and place of all advisory council meetings.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47, -55; 143-318.9 et seq.

Cross References: Compliance with the Open Meetings Law (policy 2320), Closed Sessions (2321)

Adopted: December 15, 2014