

La Grande School District 1

Code: **IFC**
Adopted: 3/9/05
Readopted: 12/10/08
Orig. Code(s): IFC

Site Council(s)

The district believes that it takes a community to raise a child. Site councils provide an important vehicle for school and local stakeholders to work together as equal partners to create the best possible educational environment for our students.

The Board authorizes the administration to implement shared decision making in the district through site councils. The purpose of these councils is to enhance the achievement of all students through improvement of the instructional program and support services to promote broad based representation and shared decision-making, use appropriate educational research and best practices, encourage and enhance professional development and training activities aligned to district and/or school goals, and to facilitate school site goal setting. The councils are intended to promote collaborative decision making in the schools by the community, parents, classified staff, teachers and administrators of the school.

Shared decision making is regarded by the Board as a process, not an end in itself. The implementation of this process shall involve regular communication between the Board, administration and councils, as well as periodic review and evaluation. To facilitate this communication, minutes of all council meetings shall be forwarded to the superintendent.

The council must include teachers, at least one classified employee, the administrator and parent(s) of students. Not more than half of the council may be teachers and not more than half may be parents of students attending that school. Teacher representatives are selected by teachers at the school. Parent representatives are selected by parents of students attending the school by a process to be defined by the Board. In addition, the Board encourages inclusion of members of the community at-large. School councils shall make decisions about the number on their council, terms of office, rotation of membership, selection of chairperson, replacement of members who leave and their decision making process.

Council duties shall include those specified in ORS 329.704. Minimal duties include:

1. The development of a plan to improve the professional growth of a school's staff;
2. The improvement of the school's instructional program;
3. The development and coordination of plans for the implementation of programs at the school in accordance with Oregon's Education Act for the 21st Century;
4. The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified employees; and
5. Advise the Board in the development of a plan for school safety and student discipline based on the processes developed by the Center for School Safety.

Site Council duties shall be approved by the Board. The superintendent will arrange for regular reports to the Board on the success of each council's endeavors. Also, the superintendent shall monitor and/or regulate council decisions regarding their effect on other schools in the district.

Application to waive Board policy may be made by a council, but must be approved by the Board. Waiver of contract provisions, state administrative rule(s), and state statute must also be approved by the Board before further processing.

The establishment of this policy is not intended to diminish or change current Board legal authority. Ultimate legal responsibility remains with the Board as the district's legal representative.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 243.650](#)

[ORS 342.553](#)

[ORS 243.782](#)

[ORS 329.537 - 329.605](#)

[ORS 342.513](#)

[ORS 342.545](#)

[ORS 342.608](#)

[ORS 342.610](#)

[ORS 342.613](#)

[ORS 342.650](#)

[OAR 581-020-0105](#)

[OAR 581-020-0115](#)