

North Wasco County School District 21

Code: **IFCA-AR**
Adopted: 9/12/02
Readopted: 5/26/04
Orig. Code(s): The Dalles IFCA-AR

School Site Council/Shared Decision Making

Purpose

- The development of plans to improve the professional growth of the school's staff.
- The improvement of the school's instructional program.
- The development and coordination of plans for the implementation of programs at the school in accordance with Oregon's Educational Act for the 21st Century.
- The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified employees.
- Advise the Board in the development of a plan for school safety and student discipline under ORS 339.333.
- Perform additional duties as assigned by the Board.

Operating Philosophy

All position statements and/or recommendations developed by a school site council shall be consistent with effective school tenets, the district's mission statement, guiding principal and Board-adopted district goals.

Membership

Each school site council shall consist of employees and parents with a direct connection to the particular school site and such other individuals as provided by statute and as determined by the Board or its designee. ORS 329.704 stipulates that "not more than half of the members shall be teachers" and "not more than half of the members shall be parents." In NWCSO 21 parents and teachers shall be equally represented. School site councils shall be formed and structured as follows:

CATEGORY	SELECTION PROCESS	MEMBERS	TERM ¹
Teachers ²	Elected by peers	2-4 (No more than half of the committee)	1-3 years
Classified ²	Elected by peers	1	2 years
Principal	Superintendent	1	Continuous
Parents	Elected by parents of students attending the school	2-4 (No more than half of the committee)	1-3 years

Membership Election Process

Election of teachers and classified member as well as parent(s) of students attending the school shall occur on or before November 1 of each year.

Council Structure/Operation

Each school site council shall designate a chair and such other officers as deemed appropriate. The site council will submit, for Board approval, a proposed plan of operation that shall include, but not be limited to:

- Officers;
- Manner in which meetings will be conducted;
- Agenda development/distribution/storage;
- Decision-making process;
- Procedure for public, staff and student input;
- Yearly goals and objectives;
- Provisions for ongoing communication with the superintendent.

If the Board determines that a school site is unable to fulfill the requirement of the 21st Century Schools Council as outlined in this policy, or if the needs of a school site require a different composition, the Board shall establish the 21st Century Schools Council in a manner that best meets the educational needs of the district.

¹Length of term of licensed, classified, parent to be determined by lot; to provide for sequential continuity.

²A nonpaid service as provided per ORS.

Limitation of Site Council Authority

Whenever a school site council's position statement or recommendation conflicts with a recommendation of another school committee, the school's site council's recommendation shall prevail.

No council shall have the authority to override an action of administrative rule/regulation, administrative decision or Board policy without first having gained approval from the superintendent and the Board, respectively. Site council decisions may not abrogate any provision of the district's collective bargaining agreements or Oregon and federal statutes nor shall a site council interfere with the duties, responsibilities and rights of the duly elected Board.

Public Meetings Law

School site councils, the duties of which include developing recommendations for Board consideration or carry out duties on behalf of the Board, shall follow the notice, meeting and record-keeping requirements of Oregon's Public Meetings Law.