

Nyssa School District 26

Code: **IFCA**
Adopted: 6/11/01
Readopted: 10/13/08
Orig. Code(s): 3-0025

21st Century Schools Councils

The Board directs the superintendent to encourage community involvement in shared decision making and to foster the collaborative efforts of district personnel, students, parents and community members through 21st Century School Councils at each school site.

Additionally, the Board may, as deemed necessary for planning purposes, establish 21st Century School Councils and/or other special committees at the district level for specific projects or issues.

School Site Councils

At the school site 21st Century Schools Councils (school site council) shall be structured as follows:

1. School site councils shall be composed of teachers, classified district employees, building principal or designee and parents of students. Members of the school site council shall appoint parents or guardians of students attending the school and may appoint representatives of the community-at-large. Parents will be selected by the parents of students attending the school, by a process to be defined by the Board.
2. Teachers and classified district employees who serve on a school site council shall be selected by the direct election of peers under the following conditions:
 - a. Not more than half of the members shall be teachers which will be elected **only** by the classroom teachers of that building;
 - b. Not more than half of the members shall be parents of students attending that school which will be selected **only** by parents;
 - c. At least one member shall be a classified employee, elected **only** by classified employees;
 - d. One member shall be a principal or principal's designee;
 - e. In addition, other members may be designated by the Board including, but not limited to, local school committee members, business leaders, students and members of the community-at-large;
 - f. Elections of teachers and classified employees shall occur on or before November 1 of each year.
3. The duties of school site councils shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. The development of a plan to improve the professional growth and career opportunities of the school staff;
 - b. The improvement of the school's instructional program;
 - c. 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;

- d. The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified employees;
 - e. Advising the Board in the development of a plan for school safety and student discipline under ORS 339.333.
4. Terms of service for school site council members will be determined by the council with final approval by the Board;
 5. Each school site council shall designate a chairman/facilitator and such other officers as deemed appropriate. Each school site council shall submit to the Board for approval a proposed plan of operation which shall include, but not be limited to, the manner in which meetings will be conducted, agenda development, decision-making process, distribution of minutes and procedures for public and other staff input. A set of minutes for each meeting will be sent to the district superintendent and/or his/her designee.

Site councils may request a waiver of Board policy. Waiver requests must be submitted in writing to the superintendent. The superintendent will submit the waiver request and his/her recommendation to the Board for final approval. Policy waiver requests will be considered based on the district's vision, mission statement, philosophy, Board-adopted goals and effective schooling tenets.

All site council decisions are subject to superintendent and Board review and approval, respectively. In no case will site councils abrogate any provision of the district's collective bargaining agreement or Board policy, unless otherwise waived under the provisions of this policy, or law.

Whenever school site council decision(s) conflicts with a recommendation of another building committee, the school council's action shall prevail.

No council shall have the authority to override an action of administrative rule/regulation, administrative decision or Board policy without the approval of the superintendent and the Board, respectively. The district vision, mission, goals, priorities, strategic plan and policies shall continue to be established at the district level, approved by the Board. Each building will develop a vision statement upon which the Board will build a district vision statement which shall become the guiding framework in which school site councils will develop school improvement plans.

Each building vision statement is to be reviewed by that building's council annually and modified if need be. Modifications are subject to review by the Board.

The overall purpose of shared decision making is to enhance student achievement through both improvement of the instructional program and delivery of support services.

Shared decision making is a part of site-based decision making. It is a process, not an end in itself Site-based decision making provides an opportunity for members of a school community to collaborate, where appropriate, in solving problems, defining goals and shaping direction for an individual school or unit.

The district encourages the collaborative work of shared decision making. Thus school councils are supported.

School site councils shall follow the notice, meeting and record keeping requirements of the Public Meetings Law.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 192.660 - 192.690](#)
[ORS 243.650](#)
[ORS 243.782](#)
[ORS 329.125](#)
[ORS 329.675 - 329.745](#)
[ORS 332.172](#)
[ORS 339.333](#)
[ORS 342.513](#)

[ORS 342.545](#)
[ORS 342.553](#)
[ORS 342.608](#)
[ORS 342.610](#)
[ORS 342.613](#)
[ORS 342.650](#)

[OAR 581-020-0105](#)
[OAR 581-020-0115](#)
[OAR 581-020-0130](#)