



NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NORWALK, CT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson, Heidi Keyes

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

6:15 pm

Room A333

(City Hall – 3rd Floor)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Discussion: Policy 1211, School Governance Councils
3. Public Comments
4. Adjournment

Next Meeting: March 1, 2016, 5:30 pm.

DRAFT

1211

Community Relations

School Governance Councils

Purpose

Consistent with the Board of Educations' adopted theory of action and its commitment to create and maintain a system of high-performing schools, all schools in the Norwalk Public School system will maintain school-based governance councils to guide the schools' development. The Board believes that the success of the school and the students it serves is the shared responsibility of school staff, parents or legal guardians and community members.

Definition

The School Governance Council (SGC) is the primary, local school decision-making body of a school devoted to achieve its mission and vision. Toward this end, the SGC will focus on the analysis of student achievement, development of improvement plans, allocation of resources and programmatic and operational changes which enhance the quality of the school and the achievement of its students.

Membership

School Governance Councils shall consist of 12 members plus up to three nonvoting members depending on the type of school involved. The following tables describe the category of membership, the number of members and how they are elected.

<i>Member</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Election Process</i>
Parents or guardians of students at the school	6	Elected by the parents or guardians of students attending the school, each household with a student attending the school will have one vote.
Teachers at the school	4	Elected by the teachers of the school.
Community leaders within the school attendance area or partner organization	1 – 2	Elected by the parent and teacher members of the Council.
School principal (nonvoting)	1	Principal or Assistant Principal.

Additional members and election process in high schools:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Election Process</i>
Students, high school council members only (nonvoting)	2	Elected by the school's student body, one from each of the junior and senior classes.

DRAFT

All members are equal partners in decision-making and all decisions are made by consensus or a two-thirds majority vote of those Council members in attendance where consensus is not achieved and a vote may be required.

Requirements

All members shall be required to participate in initial and annual training sessions provided by the District and to remain in good standing in the groups they represent during the term of their service on the Council, e.g. teacher representatives must be teachers in active service at the school and parent representatives must be parents of children currently attending the school. School Governance Councils shall meet monthly from September through June of each year. Absence from three consecutive meetings will result in forfeiture of Council membership.

Selection and Term of Members

Members of the Councils shall be selected as follows:

- Parents representatives shall be selected from parents or legal guardians of children enrolled in the school. The process for parent selection shall be developed by the principal in collaboration with the school's Parent-Teacher Organization or comparable parent organization, subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools.
- Teachers shall be selected by the teachers of the school.
- Members representing one or more partner organizations external to the school shall be invited to serve by the elected members of the Council.

Voting members have a two-year term and no one member can serve more than two terms on a council. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at the first election of the Council, half of the voting members elected, selected by random drawing, shall serve one year terms. Thereafter, all voting members shall serve two year terms. The nonvoting student members serve a one-year term, and no student member can serve more than two terms. Elections will be conducted in the month of May following the requirements stated in the election process within this policy. The year of each term shall be from June 1 through May 31. Vacancies that occur during the year will be filled by the Council for the unexpired portion of a term.

Roles and Responsibilities

A. Parent Co-Chairperson

A Parent Co-Chair of each School Governance Council shall be elected annually by the members. The Co-Chairs shall set meeting agendas, preside over meetings of the Council, attend bi-annual district-wide meetings of SGC Co-Chairs with the Superintendent and an annual meeting of SGC Co-Chairs with the Board of Education.

B. Principal or School Director

The principal is the chief executive officer of the school and accountable for school quality and student achievement. The principal shall be responsible for maintaining and supporting the School Governance Council at the school. The principal shall:

1. serve as the Council Co-Chair
2. make recommendations to the Council and implement Council decisions

DRAFT

3. be a non-voting member of the Council
4. make tie-breaking decisions in cases where the Council cannot agree or fails to act on items 1, 2, or 6 of section C of Roles and Responsibilities

In the exceptional case where the principal is in disagreement with two-thirds of the Council regarding items 1, 2, or 6 below, the Chief of School Operations shall review both recommendations and make a final determination.

C. Duties of Council Members

Subject to the provisions of Section F below, the Council collectively, shall establish a process and timeline for the following functions:

1. Conduct at least one meeting per year to which all parents and teachers of the school are invited, and at which the vision, mission and goals for the school shall be discussed and evaluated. The Council shall use the results of such meetings to guide it in appointment of committees, study groups and task forces, under section (D) below, to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities hereunder and carrying out projects for the improvement of the school.
2. Analyze student achievement data and school needs relative to the development and approval of the school's Accountability Plan.
3. Develop and approve the school's annual resource allocation plan (budget) in support of the school's improvement goals.
4. In the event of a vacancy in the Principalship, notwithstanding any other Board policy, the Council shall serve as the local interview committee and shall interview a slate of qualified candidates provided by the District and recommend to the Superintendent of Schools one or more candidates from said slate for appointment as Principal.
5. In addition, the council shall assist the Principal in the selection process for teachers and the other certified positions.
6. Provide advice and assistance to the principal regarding programmatic and operational changes which foster the school's improvement goals, subject to Board policy and to contracts made by the Board. This may include major program changes, adjustment of the school's focus, hours and days of operation and the school's enrollment goals.
7. Promote the school as a parental choice relative to its enrollment goals.
8. Develop and approve a School Compact for parents or legal guardians and students outlining the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus.
9. Provide advice and assistance to the principal on matters of importance to parents or legal guardians. Such advice shall be informed by an annual survey of parent satisfaction with aspects of school quality and student achievement and an annual parent forum. Such forum shall be conducted by the principal and parent representatives
10. Inform the Board of Education relative to the school's facility needs.
11. Participate in the selection of the school's "after school" program.
12. Determine the need for school uniforms and any type of unique school attire to be worn by students.

DRAFT

D. Committees, Study Groups, Task Forces

The Council may appoint committees, study groups, or task forces of parents, teachers and community members for such purposes as it deems helpful/necessary in order to carry out the responsibilities of the Council enumerated in these bylaws and to promote the vision, mission and goals of the school. No such committee, study group or task force may exercise the authority of the Council.

E. Other Provisions

The Council may adopt Bylaws providing for selection of additional officers in addition to the Co-Chairs, and addressing such other matters as the Council desires (provided that such Bylaws shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Policy).

The Council shall comply with any applicable requirements of state law at schools where such Councils are mandated by such law.

The Council shall comply with Norwalk Board of Education policies, procedures and contractual agreements.

School Governance Council meetings are open to all parents of the school.

F. Superintendent's Power to Suspend Provisions of Policy 1211

Consistent with the Board of Educations' adopted theory of action, individual schools are presumed to act autonomously to the extent provided above. Notwithstanding the foregoing, schools that fail to achieve the goals set forth in their improvement plans shall be subject to a reduction in their autonomy and intervention from the NPS administration. If the Superintendent determines that a school is failing to achieve said goals, the Superintendent may intervene and remove from the Council its authority under any or all of subsections 3, 4, 5, 6, 11 and 12 of Section C hereinabove.

Reporting and Oversight

Each School Governance Council shall report annually to the school's stakeholders on their progress in meeting the goals of the school's Accountability Plan.

The Board of Education shall conduct an annual forum with School Governance Council Co-Chairs to assess the implementation of this policy.

The Superintendent will report annually to the Board on the effectiveness of School Governance Councils as an element of the Board's Strategic Operating Plan.



School Governance Councils

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated March 1, 2013

The State Department of Education (SDE) is providing this collection of questions and answers to assist schools and districts in implementing School Governance Councils (councils). For a description of Connecticut's School Governance Councils and additional guidance, go to www.sde.ct.gov/sde/SGC.

Contents:

1. Election of Councils
2. Operation of Councils
3. School Status
4. Other

Note: The list is updated periodically. Recently added questions are marked as new with this symbol .

1. ELECTION OF COUNCILS

1.1 Who is responsible for conducting the election?

- A. Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e, the local and regional board of education is the entity required to establish the School Governance Council. The Department recommends that the local and regional board of education will delegate this task at the school level to the principal and the principal's responsibilities will include coordinating the election with a variety of interested stakeholders.

1.2 Must an election be held even if there are fewer nominees than available parent seats on the School Governance Council?

- A. Yes.

1.3 What process should be used to fill vacant parent positions if there are an insufficient number of candidates on the ballot?

- A. The full membership of the council must be completed by a continuing process of soliciting nominations and holding a second election.

1.4 What process should be used to fill parent, teacher, student and community member positions that become vacant following the election?

- A. Replacement members must still be elected, as quickly as possible, in an election process that conforms to the requirements in the law. The members of the council should determine when the election will be conducted and document the process for filling vacancies in the bylaws.

- 1.5 How are community members nominated?**
 A. C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e requires that each council have two members that shall be community leaders within the school district. The community leader members are elected by the parent and teacher members of the council, and therefore these members may determine the nomination process once the council is established and document it in their bylaws.
- 1.6 What constitutes a “community member?”**
 A. C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e requires only that the community members of the council be a leader within the school district and that they be elected by the parent and teacher members of the council. This definition was intentionally left open by the drafters of the legislation and was intended to incorporate community leaders of influence in each community, including, but not limited to, religious leaders, nonprofit leaders and business leaders.
- 1.7 Can the school use its Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) to nominate parents to serve on the council?**
 A. C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e requires that the parent or guardian members of the council shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students attending the school. Therefore, the nomination process has to be fair and open to the entire parent community (not just members of the PTO). However, the PTO could assist in organizing and staffing the nomination/election process with involvement from administration and staff.
- 1.8 Can the school use its data team as the representation for the teacher members of the council?**
 A. The teacher members have to be elected to the council by the teachers of the school. If members of the data team are nominated and elected by their peers, then yes. However, their membership on a data team should not be the determining factor for their nomination or election.
- 1.9 Can the school use its teachers union to nominate teachers to serve on the council? *(added December 2010)***
 A. C.G.S. SEC. 10-223e requires that the teacher members of the council shall be elected by the teachers who work in the school. Therefore, the nomination and election process could be assisted by teacher’s union of the school but it cannot be used as the sole means for nominating the teachers.
- 1.10 Can a parent whose child has been placed by the school district in an out-of-district education setting be nominated and elected to serve on a council? *(added June 2011)***
 A. No. The law says the parent member has to be a parent or guardian of a student attending the school.
- 1.11 Can a teacher of a school who is also the parent of a child attending that school be nominated and elected as a parent member of a council? *(added June 2011)***
 A. The law does not specify whether a parent who works at the school can also serve on the school governance council. However, the intent of the law is to broaden the participation in the school. While not specifically prohibited in the law, the SDE recommends that teachers do not serve in the role of parents on the council. Each school governance council should create bylaws to address such situations.

- 1.12 Can a community member elected to a council be a parent or teacher in that school?** *(added June 2011)*
- A. Since the law does not define community member, it does not exclude that person from being a parent or teacher in the school. However, the intent of the law is to provide for broad participation among a school's stakeholders. So while not specifically prohibited, the SDE recommends that parents and teachers do not serve in the role of community members on the council. Each school governance council should create bylaws to address such situations.
- 1.13 Are school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers considered "teachers" for the purposes of serving on a School Governance Council?** *(added September 2012)*
- A. Yes, under Connecticut regulations, certified school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers qualify as teachers and can therefore be elected to a council as a teacher member.
- 1.14 Can two parents from the same family serve on the same council?** *(added March 2013)*
- A. The law does not specify whether two parents from the same family can both serve on the same School Governance Council. However, the intent of the law is to broaden the participation in the school. While not specifically prohibited in the law, the SDE strongly encourages parents from different families to participate in the council in order to provide more varied representation of the student population. Each school governance council should create bylaws to address such situations.
- 1.15 Can a community member who is also a vendor for the after school program serve on the council?** *(added March 2013)*
- A. Persons who serve on the council should not have a financial relationship with the school and should avoid conflicts of interest.



Note: Please see "Guidance on Election Procedures" on the School Governance Council Web page for additional information on the election process and sample forms (available at www.sde.ct.gov/sde/SGC).

2. OPERATION OF COUNCILS

- 2.1 Are School Governance Councils required to develop bylaws?**
- A. C.G.S. SEC. 10-223e does not require that a council develop bylaws. However, the SDE recommends that each council do so. The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) has developed sample bylaws (available at www.cabe.org).
- 2.2 Should councils elect an executive committee (chair, vice-chair, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary)?**
- A. C.G.S. SEC. 10-223e does not require that a council elect an executive committee. However, the SDE recommends that each council do so.
- 2.3 Must councils use Robert's Rules of Order?**
- A. C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e does not make a recommendation as to the procedural rules that a council must follow. However, SDE recommends that each council follow Robert's Rules of Order or a similar process for ensuring that meetings are run in a fair and equitable manner. For more information see www.robertsrules.com.

- 2.4 Are meetings subject to the Open Meetings Act? If so, is there a Web site or document that provides specific guidance?**
- A. Yes, meetings of each council are subject to the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-200 et seq. The Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission has a Web site with relevant resources located at www.state.ct.us/foi/.
- 2.5 Are records created and/or maintained by the council subject to the Open Records Act? If so, is there a Web site or document that provides specific guidance?**
- A. Yes, documents created or maintained by each council are subject to the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-200 et seq. The Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission has a Web site with relevant resources located at www.state.ct.us/foi/.
- 2.6 Do community members of the School Governance Council vote?**
- A. Yes
- 2.7 We have let our student members (on our current school councils) vote. Can we still do this?**
- A. No, C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e requires that the student members of the council be nonvoting members.
- 2.8 Our current governing board also hears many discipline appeals. Would the new School Governance Council still be able to do this?**
- A. No. The councils established pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e are tasked with specific responsibilities in the public act. While there is some flexibility in the act for the council to “provide advice on any other major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school, except on matters relating to the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement,” this language would not encompass ruling on disciplinary appeals.
- 2.9 If a school is required to institute a School Governance Council, and that school does not receive Title I funds, does it have to develop the parent involvement policy and the school-parent compact which are required under the Federal Title 1 Program?**
- A. Yes. The council under C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e is required to develop both regardless of the school’s Title 1 eligibility.
- 2.10 Can Title I funds be used to support the work of the School Governance Council? (added September 2012)**
- A. In some cases schools can use Title I parent involvement funds to support activities of the council. For example, a school operating a Title I school wide program may use Title I funds to support the council’s work if the use of Title I funds is in accordance with the school’s approved school wide plan and supplements the funds made available to the school from state and local resources. However, in other cases, use of Title I funds for this purpose would not be allowed. For example,
- Title I schools that operate targeted assistance programs may not use Title I funds to support the work of the council. In these schools, Title I funds may only be used for programs that provide supplementary services to selected students.
 - Title I funds cannot be used at a non-Title I school even though the district receives Title I funds.

To receive guidance on the use of Title I funds for your particular school, please contact Marlene Padernacht at 860-713-6568 or marlene.padernacht@ct.gov.

- 2.11 Do School Governance Councils need to carry indemnity insurance similar to what local boards of education carry? (added June 2011)**
- A. There is no express requirement in C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e for councils to carry indemnity insurance. Each local board of education should make its own determination.
- 2.12 The law says that School Governance Councils “shall” advise in particular areas including “reviewing the fiscal objectives of the school’s draft budget and advise the principal before the budget is submitted to the superintendent.” What about the case where a school has no input into its budget; all budget decisions are handled at the central office. Is the council out of compliance because they will never advise in this area? (added June 2011)**
- A. In a situation where a draft budget is not developed at the school level, the council should work with the local or regional board to determine other avenues to advise the district in the development of the budget impacting the school. Such efforts may include but not be limited to the review and analysis of the prior year’s budget and its fiscal objectives. The council, board and district should participate in developing a process for allowing school governance councils to provide their recommendation regarding the budget.
- 2.13 Some schools that are required to have councils by November 1, 2011 may choose to have elections and constitute their councils earlier, for example before school ends in June. For administrative purposes, can the SDE identify their start date as the required date of November 1? This will have implications for tracking schools and the three year clock on recommending reconstitution. (added June 2011)**
- A. The councils that commence earlier will have an official start date of November 1, 2011.
- 2.15 If a school only has five teachers and not all teachers can attend the School Governance Council meetings, can “all” teachers be members of the council but “rotate” attendance? (added September 2012)**
- A. The expectation is that all members attend the meetings. Usually the bylaws will address this and will identify the number of members that is required for a quorum as well as how many meetings a member may miss before their seat needs to be replaced. Remember that teachers must be elected to the council; elections must be held even if there are only five teachers in the candidate pool.
- 2.16 In the school governance materials it refers to several different models of reconstitution both state and federal. I am trying to help the council members understand them but I cannot locate any clear definitions that provide distinctions between the models. Do you have anything available that provides definitions of the terms that I can share with the group? (added September 2012)**
- A. The federal models are part of the School Improvement Grant (or SIG) program (for more information go to <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/index.html>):
- **Transformation model:** Implement each of the following strategies: (1) replace the principal and take steps to increase teacher and school leader effectiveness; (2) institute comprehensive instructional reforms; (3) increase learning time and create community-oriented schools; and (4) provide operational flexibility and sustained support.

- **Turnaround model:** Replace the principal and rehire no more than 50% of the staff, and grant the principal sufficient operational flexibility (including in staffing, calendars/time and budgeting) to fully implement a comprehensive approach to substantially improve student outcomes.
- **Restart:** Convert or close the school and reopen it under the management of an effective charter school operator, a charter school management organization, or an education management organization that has been selected through a rigorous review process.

The state models are:

- **CommPACT Schools:** CommPACT stands for Community, Parents, Administrators, Children, and Teachers. CommPACT Schools have autonomy in governance, budgeting, and curriculum. They are managed by a partnership of school district administrators, school representatives, teacher union, community leaders and parents (more information is available at <http://www.commpact.uconn.edu>).
- **Innovation schools:** Innovation schools operate under an innovation plan developed either by the school faculty and district leadership or an external partner as determined by the local board of education. The innovation plan must have specified elements of autonomy and flexibility, including plans for curriculum, budget, school schedule, staffing, policies and procedures, professional development, and specified measurable annual goals for school performance and student success (more information is available at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2011/rpt/2011-R-0001.htm>)

2.17 At our school governance council meeting the parents questioned whether the council can take action regarding the town/school budget and encourage people to vote for the budget. Can the council actively endorse the town budget and encourage people to vote yes? (added September 2012)

- A. Advocacy for the budget is not one of the specific responsibilities of school governance councils outlined in the law. However, individual council members can speak in support of the budget. The only restriction is that once a budget referendum date is set, public funds cannot be expended to promote or defeat a budget proposal (for example, use of the school copier to produce "vote yes" flyers).




2.18 Can School Governance Councils go into executive session? (added September 2012)

- A. Yes, a School Governance Council can go into executive session but must follow certain protocol to do so. There is information about executive sessions on the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission's web site at <http://www.ct.gov/foi/cwp/view.asp?a=4161&q=488526> or call 860 566-5682.

2.19 The law says that councils have the responsibility "to participate in the hiring process of the school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the superintendent of schools for the district and the local and regional board of education." How do you define "other administrators"? (added September 2012)

- A. The Teachers' Negotiations Act. (TNA) defines "administrators' unit" as certified professional employees . . . employed in a position requiring an intermediate

administrator or supervisor certificate of the equivalent . . . and whose administrative or supervisory duties . . . shall equal at least fifty per cent of the assigned time of that employee.

- 2.20 The law says that the council shall participate in the hiring process of the school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the superintendent and the local board of education. Does this mean that the council serves on the interview committee? (added June 2011)**
- A. The School Governance Council must be involved in conducting interviews; however, the law does not require that the council serve on or as the board of education's interview committee. The council should work with the board of education to determine an appropriate role consistent with the local board of education's hiring practices ensuring that the council's recommendation is shared with the superintendent and local board of education as a formal part of the process.
- 2.21 The law states that School Governance Councils must participate in the hiring process of the school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and regional board of education. Is it sufficient for one or two members of the council to serve on the interview committee? (added March 2013)** 
- A. No. The law states that participating in the interview process for the principal or other administrators is a council responsibility, but not the responsibility of an individual member or members. Therefore, the council, as a body, must participate by conducting interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the superintendent.
- 2.22 How should School Governance Councils document that they have taken part in the hiring process of the school principal or other administrators of the school? (added March 2013)** 
- A. There are different ways to document such participation. One way is to have the School Governance Council indicate in their meeting minutes that they conducted interviews of candidates and reported on such interviews to the superintendent.
- 2.23 Can School Governance Council members e-mail each other about council business or is that a violation of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act? (added March 2013)** 
- A. If council members deliberate an issue via e-mail, it could be considered a meeting under the FOI Act. Councils can disseminate information via e-mail but should avoid the conversations and deliberations that should be held in public. More information is available on the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission Web site (www.state.ct.us/foi/).

3. SCHOOL STATUS

- 3.1 Are the School Governance Councils permanent once a school is identified? If not, how does a school get released from this requirement?**
- A. As the law is written, there is no provision for ceasing the operation of a council.
- 3.2 If a school has been reconstituted previously, can the School Governance Council recommend that it be reconstituted again? What constitutes reconstitution? Does this provision apply only to the schools receiving the School Improvement Grant? Or does it also apply to schools that**

have been through substantial changes as a result of No Child Left Behind sanctions (restructured, redesigned, etc)?

- A. Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 10-223e, the council may not vote to reconstitute if: (1) the school was already reconstituted as a result of receiving a federal school improvement grant that was contingent on reconstitution; or (2) a reconstitution of the school was initiated by another source. Therefore, a council may not vote to reconstitute a school that has already been reconstituted by an outside source, such as the State Board of Education or the local or regional board of education. For this purpose, reconstitution is defined as one of the six models included in the act: (1) turnaround; (2) restart; (3) transformation; (4) CommPACT school; (5) innovation school; and (6) any other model developed under federal law.

3.3 A school is on the list that requires the formation of a School Governance Council. The school's performance on state testing has now improved significantly. Does the new status mean that the school does not have to form a School Governance Council?

- A. If a school's performance improves after the time it was designated as needing a School Governance Council, it is still required to implement the council. There is no provision in the statute to allow improved performance on subsequent state testing to exempt a school from the requirement to implement a School Governance Council.

3.4 A school is not required to have an School Governance Council, but the district has determined that all schools in the district will have one—regardless of whether they are identified or not. If a school is NOT required to have a council but one is established voluntarily, do the legal requirements apply? (added September 2012; edited March 2013)

- A. If a school is not required to have a School Governance Council, but the district decides that the school should have one and calls it a School Governance Council then that council must operate with the same requirements as a the state mandated council. However, a voluntary council does not have the same authority to recommend school reconstitution that a state mandated council has.

4. OTHER

4.1 What are the consequences/implications for schools that are required to implement school governance councils but do not do so? (revised March 2013)

- A. Local boards of education are responsible for implementation of required School Governance Councils. If a school fails to implement a council, the CSDE will bring the matter to the attention of the appropriate school officials and work with the district and school to ensure future compliance.

4.2 My school is not required by the law to implement a School Governance Council but some parents would like our school to start one. How should a school move forward to start a council voluntarily? (added September 2012)

- A. There is not a process established by the state for voluntary councils. This issue would fall to the local or regional board of education. A group of parents that would like their school to start a council would use the established process the board of education has for bringing requests forward for consideration.