

Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment

District accountability committee

The district accountability committee will consist of at least:

- one parent
- one teacher
- one school administrator
- one taxpayer from the district

The Board will strive to have a balance of membership consistent with the district's racial/ethnic proportions. The superintendent or other staff member designated by the Board will serve as a resource person.

Members of the district accountability committee will serve basic terms of one year and will be surveyed each spring as to their willingness to serve additional one-year terms. The committee will elect a chair from its membership, establish a schedule of meetings and adopt general rules for its operation.

School accountability committees

NOTE: If a school can show that prior to January 1, 2000, it had in place a school committee or council that performed the legal duties specified for school advisory councils, it is not required to create a new committee or council or change the councils, it is not required to create a new committee or council or change the membership of that committee or council.

However, it is unlikely that a school would have an established committee that was performing the specified duties of a school advisory council.

Therefore, as reflected in this policy, we recommend that schools utilize their school accountability committee to satisfy the requirements of both the school accountability committee law and the school advisory council law. In order to meet legal requirements, the combined committee must perform the functions of both the accountability committee law and the school advisory council law and the membership must include the legally required persons for both committees.

The only new person that needs to be added to an existing accountability committee is an adult member designated by an organization of parents, teachers and students recognized at the school. The other new requirement is that the parents and teachers must be elected.

For the first year of any school advisory/accountability committee, the teacher and the two parents/guardians with the highest number of votes will serve terms of three years.

Each school accountability committee will consist of at least:

- three parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school elected by a vote of the parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school
- one teacher who provides instruction at the school elected by a vote of all licensed professionals who provide instruction at the school or have an office in the school
- the principal or the principal's designee
- one business person from the community who is appointed by the principal
- one adult member designated by an organization of parents, teachers and students recognized at the school

No more than three members may be employed by or be related to employees of the district. "Related" means the person's spouse, son, daughter, sister or brother.

Members of the committee may be designated or appointed, except where election is required. If an election would result in more than three district employees or person related to district employees, only the candidates who receive the highest number of votes that will result in only three persons who are employees or related to employees will become members of the committee.

All designations and appointments shall be made by September 1st in odd years. All required elections shall be conducted on or before October 31st each year.

Members of the committee serve terms of two years. Vacancies shall be filled by majority action of the remaining members of the committee. Except for the principal, no member of the committee shall serve more than two consecutive full terms, plus any balance remaining on an un-expired term if the initial appointment was to fill a vacancy.

ADOPTION DATE: January 24, 1996
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REVISION DATE: February 17, 1999
REVISION DATE: May 16, 2001

Note: In districts where the student population is fewer than 500 students, upon the approval of the Commissioner of Education, the responsibilities for school district and school advisory accountability may be assumed by one committee

Note: For the district accountability committee, changes required by SB 186 are only necessary if the district did not have a district accountability committee performing its legally-prescribed duties as of January 1, 2000. If the district did not have a district accountability committee as of that date, membership of the committee must be as follows:

- three parents of students enrolled in district schools who are not employees or related to employees of the district ("related" means the person's spouse, son, daughter, sister or brother) (may be elected)
- one teacher (may be elected)
- one school administrator
- one person from the community who is involved in business