

**DRAFT: 5/16/2011 – Bob and Jim**

**The Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring C.L.A.I.M.**

**Overview:**

Oak Park Elementary School District 97's ability to provide an excellent and fiscally healthy school system is greatly impacted by legislation, policies, and regulations outside of its direct control. District 97 cannot be passive and must try to help influence issues. Some of the issues, primarily at the state level and to a lesser degree at the county and federal levels, that have impacted District 97 over the past decade include:

- Tax cap legislation
- General State Aid Formula
- Both funded and unfunded mandates
- Evaluation, compensation, and retention/dismissal of staff
- Property tax collection, appeals, and refunds
- Adequate Yearly Progress (No Child Left Behind)

**Purpose:**

Through the **Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring**, the District 97 Board of Education will be proactive in monitoring legislation, policies and practices that impact District 97 in order to develop action plans to support, oppose, or propose legislation to advance the mission of District 97.

**Charge:**

**Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring will:**

- Develop and propose a legislative agenda for endorsement by the District 97 Board of Education regarding school finance and policy issues at the State level, and, as the taskforce deems appropriate, at the county and/or federal level.
- Strengthen connections and participation with lobbying groups, especially those with whom the district currently has formal relationships, such as ED-RED and IASB.
- Identify, partner and leverage organizations aligned with one or more items of the District's legislative agenda.
- Generate informational materials to identify the impact of state, county, or federal legislative issues on District 97.
- Engage Oak Park's legislative delegation to keep them informed of the ways current and proposed legislation, policies and practices impact District 97.
- Craft, periodically review, and if necessary, due to the changing legislative climate, amend the committee's scope, procedures, practices, and guiding principles for approval by the board.

**Authority:**

**Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring** shall be a standing committee of the District 97 Board of Education.

**Composition:**

The **Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring** will be composed representatives from a broad cross section of District 97 stakeholders. The appointment process will ensure that no committee members have conflicts of interest.

There will be **5 non-voting** members:

- Two members of the District 97 Board of Education
- Two members of the District 97 administration, appointed by the superintendent
- Superintendent, as ex-officio member

There will be **13-17 voting** members, who possess relevant experience and knowledge, from the following stakeholder groups:

- Bargaining units
- Parent organizations
- Community organizations
- Community at large

One of the community members will serve as Chair of the committee. For the first one year, the Board will appoint the chair after which the committee will select its chair. Board and community members will be asked to serve for two years. A term limit of four terms will apply to Board and community members. The committee will meet at least quarterly.

**Open Meetings:**

As a District 97 Board of Education committee, all meetings will be subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.