

Charge for the Committee for Community Engagement (CCE)

Overview

District 97's long-standing commitment to community engagement has played an instrumental role in its efforts to provide students with access to a high-quality education and positive learning environments that are equitable, inclusive and focused on whole child. It is the fervent belief in this commitment and the strong desire to further foster its relationship with the residents of Oak Park that have led the Board of Education to establish a standing Committee for Community Engagement (CCE) that will be comprised primarily of individuals from the community.

Purpose

The CCE will provide the Board of Education and administration with ongoing expertise, strategic counsel and guidance that will help increase community interest and engagement in the work of District 97, while also fostering collaborative partnerships with community members that will aid the continued growth of the district's schools and success of its students. The committee may take on additional activities as authorized by the board, and its actions will be governed by the board's policies.

Charge

CCE will:

- Review and offer feedback on the district's current mechanisms for promoting community engagement
- Investigate national trends and best practices regarding community engagement
- Identify new strategies and resources that will help foster and promote a positive and productive two-way dialogue with community members
- Recommend ways that various communication tools and platforms can be used to educate and inform community members about the efforts being undertaken by the district to support student learning and staff development
- Offer advice and guidance about how the district can successfully sustain community interest and engagement in its work
- Provide the Board with an annual report summarizing the CCE's activities from the previous year and plans for the year to come

Authority

CCE shall be a standing committee of the Board of Education.

Composition

CCE will be composed of seven individuals representing District 97's community stakeholders. Has any thought been given to the possibility of having a student or two serve on the committee? I think the work of this group would benefit from having a student voice/perspective. We don't need to include information about student participation in the charge, but should consider it in terms of recruitment.

Will consist of two board members, the superintendent or his/her designee, and seven board-appointed community members who possess relevant experience and knowledge.

The board will ensure that the community members' participation on the committee will not create a conflict of interest.

One of the community members will serve as chair of the committee. For the first two-year term, the board will appoint the chair after which the committee will select its chair.

During the 2016-17 school year, the committee will allow for a staggered term limit, with half of the community members serving for one year and the other half serving for two. This will be a one-time only occurrence that will help ensure long-

term consistency and continuity on the committee. Following the 2016-17 school year, all community members will serve a two-year term on the committee with a maximum limit of four terms.

CCE will meet monthly.

Open Meetings

All meetings will be subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

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