

School Advisory Councils
and
Student Achievement
REPORT



NORTH SLOPE
BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
— *Striving For Excellence* —

In attendance:

During the training the attendees went through the 8000's of the NSBSD. The focus of the training was WHAT CAN (and Should) the SAC's do!

Barrow School Advisory Council

Tina Wolgemuth

Daniel Thomas

Sarah Tuai

Kali School Advisory Council

Zachary Stenson, Principal Kali School

Rhoda Rexford

Nathan Henry

Lupita Henry

Tikigaq School Advisory Council

John Luhrs, Principal, Tikigaq School

Rex Rock, Sr.

Robert Dirks Sr.

Peggy Frankson

Nunamiut School Advisory Council

Larry Dale Richensin, Principal, Nunamiut School

Vera Nay
Katie Fry

Meade River School Advisory Council
Yvette Cross, Principal, Meade River School
Rod Lloyd

Harold Kaveolook School Advisory Council
Todd Washburn, Principal, Harold Kaveolook School
Morgan King
Riannon Akootchook
Alicia Solomon
Clara Sittichinli
Carolyn Kulukhon

Nuiqsut Trapper School Advisory Council
John Bruce, Principal, Nuiqsut Trapper School

This list that follows are some of the ideas of what SAC's can do and should spend time focused on these ideas:

- Plan community and school events such as open house and family nights
- Advocate for the school with community members
- Give input to the annual calendar
- Help add items to the CIP list for facility improvement
- Chair person work with the principal to develop the agenda
- President work with principal to see what information has come in from the regional board that should be shared with the SAC.
 - Policy update to review
 - Calendar updates
- Share issues with the regional board around growing issues in your site.
- Help the principal set the agenda for the monthly meetings.
- Help fill the open seats on the SAC when a member leaves the council.
- Review the site handbook on a yearly basis and ensure it aligns with district policy

**Lastly but very importantly, the following is right out of the policy manual, BP 8200
POWERS AND DUTIES**

The powers and duties of the School Advisory Council are delegated by the School Board and may be discharged only at a legal meeting conducted according to Board policy and administrative regulations.

The School Advisory Council shall advise the School Board and the administration on all matters concerning the schools and shall perform other duties as prescribed by the School Board.

The School Advisory Council shall seek to represent the interests of the community and communicate those interests to the School Board and administration.

Within the guidelines established by the School Board, the School Advisory Council members **shall**:

1. Attend meetings on a regular basis, arrive at meetings on time, and work cooperatively with other SAC members;
2. Serve in an advisory capacity to the site administrator and to the Board;
3. Assist the site administrator in the revision of the school goals, philosophy, rules and regulations, and educational programs;
4. Assess the community's educational needs and advise the site administrator and the Board on appropriate direction;
5. Work with the site administrator to prepare a school calendar for the following school year for Board approval;
6. Coordinate elections for representatives to the Federal Program Parent Advisory Council;
7. Assume responsibility for buildings by recommending a six-year future building plan and updating it each year;
8. Participate in the planning and budgeting process for the school programs;
9. Provide recommendations to the Board related to the prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse not less than once every three years, during the review period for the district's discipline and safety program;
10. Serve as liaison for information and good relations between the school and community;
11. Deal with local problems or public complaints by following school policy and keeping in mind the appropriate channel of communication, working to provide an equitable solution or course of action using the following procedures:
 - a. first, be a good listener without taking sides;
 - b. second, refer the individual to the site administrator;
 - c. third, if the site administrator needs the assistance of the SAC to resolve the problem or complaint, place the matter on the agenda in the proper manner; reserve judgment and withhold commitment and/or opinion until the meeting;
 - d. fourth, if the SAC and the site administrator are unable to bring a satisfactory solution, refer the matter to the Superintendent;

- e. fifth, unresolved problems will be referred to the Board by the Superintendent;
- 12. Confer with the site administrator as requested on classified positions and recommendations on selection for hire, although the site administrator shall make the final hiring recommendation to the Superintendent;
- 13. Keep confidential those matters, in accordance with state law, dealing with district personnel and finances;
- 14. Assume other school-related duties and responsibilities as called upon by the site administrator, Board and district.

The SAC members shall receive no financial compensation for their services.

Some questions that the members asked before the training started so that we were sure to come back and answer them:

What is the calendar process?

How often do other SAC's meet?

How do you determine unexcused vs excused absences?

How do we get our regional board member to be more engaged in our community?

Discussion around Handling Complaints

1. Don't make assumptions
2. Provide a process, not a solution
3. Inform and advise
4. Follow-through

Lastly the group went over a simply formula to focus on how the SAC can write a recommendation letter to your regional board.