



School Governance Councils: An Overview



SGC Responsibilities

➤ Powers

- Approve the school Strategic Plan and updates
- Approve budget recommendations and related allocations
- Manage the Request for Flexibility process
- Participate in hiring of the Principal
- Provide annual feedback on Principal's performance
- Interface with school's Title I committee (if applicable)

➤ Responsibilities

- Communicate with school stakeholders
- Maintain Council certification & meet at least 6 times/year
- Abide by Georgia's Open Records & Open Meetings Laws

Members of the SGC

1 – Principal (non-voting)

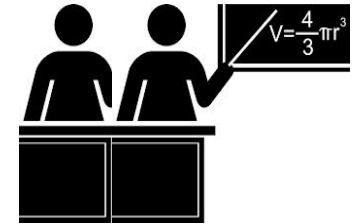
3 – Parents/Guardians (elected)

2 – Teachers (elected)

2 – School Employees (appointed)

2 – Community Members (nominated)

+ 2 – Students (HS only; non-voting)



10 Member Council (ES, MS)

12 Member Council (HS)



ALL Council Members



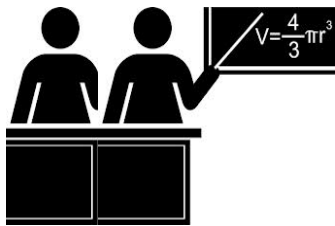
- ✓ May only serve on 1 School Governance Council at a time
- ✓ May NOT be an elected official of a government entity
- ✓ Must be the ONLY member of their family serving on the Council
- ✓ Must be 18 years of age or older (with the exception of high school student members)

SGC Eligibility: Elected Positions



Parents/Guardians (3)

- ✓ Must be the legal parent/guardian of a child enrolled at the school
- ✓ Must NOT be an employee of the school
- ✓ Elected by the legal parents/guardians of the school



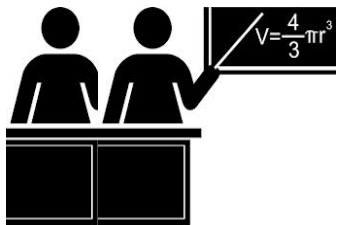
Teachers (2)

- ✓ Must NOT be the parent/guardian of a child enrolled at the school
- ✓ Must be a school-based employee with a “home school”
- ✓ Must be paid from teacher salary schedule
- ✓ Elected by the school employees that have the school as their “home school”



School Employees (2)

- ✓ MAY be the parent/guardian of a child enrolled at the school
- ✓ Must be a school-based employee with a “home school”
- ✓ Appointed by the principal. No further action required.



Community Members (2)

- ✓ MAY be the parent/guardian of a child enrolled at the school
- ✓ Must NOT be an employee of the school
- ✓ Nominated by the principal; Must be approved by the rest of the Council in place



Students (2)

- ✓ One student must be the Student Body President
- ✓ The other student must be the president of a non-elected student organization
 - ✓ Council determines the non-elected organization
- ✓ Both students serve a one-year term



Principal (1)

- ✓ Must be the principal (or interim) of the school
- ✓ Guides the school through Council establishment and leads the Council until Officers are elected (Feb./March)

SGC Terms of Office

Inaugural SGC

- **Parents**
 - 1 one-year
 - 2 two-year

 - **Teachers**
 - 1 one-year
 - 1 two-year

 - **School Employee**
 - 1 one-year
 - 1 two-year

 - **Community Member**
 - 1 one-year
 - 1 two-year
- ✓ Term of office will begin after election/appointment and end June 30, 2016 (one-year) or June 30, 2017 (two-year).

SGC Terms of Office

Subsequent SGCs

- Two-year terms for all SGC members
- Term of office will begin July 1 and end June 30.
- No member will serve more than 2 consecutive terms
- A member who has already served 2 consecutive terms may run for election after 2 years off the SGC.

SGC Certification

- In order to exercise its responsibilities, a Council must earn certification.
- Certification requires:
 - 1 Successful completion of the FCS training requirements by each voting Council member;
 - 2 A satisfactory criminal background check of each voting Council member; &
 - 3 Compliance with Council election & appointment processes.



CERTIFIED

- **Accountability:**

- ✓ The Fulton County Board of Education is the official governing body of the Fulton County School System. When an SGC is unable to fulfill its duties and responsibility, the Board of Education has the authority to:

- Require specific interventions
- Dissolve the current Council

- **Liability:**

- ✓ SGC members are volunteers and are afforded legal immunity under state (O.C.G.A. 51-1-20(a)) and federal law (42 U.S.C. 14501-14505).

- **Compensation:**

- ✓ All SGC members will serve without compensation.

From LSAC to SGC

- **LSAC = advisory**
 - Provide advice, recommendations, and assistance and represent the community of parents and businesses
 - Bylaws (each LSAC)
 - *Replaced by SGCs either at election or certification*
- **SGC = decision-making authority**
 - Specific powers as outlined by law and district
 - District Regulations (Handbook)
 - *Replace LSACs after elections or certification*