



Shared Governance and Ownership

Initiative Owner: Scott Hetherington, Director of Governance and Flexibility

At Fulton County Schools (FCS), we know that community engagement is critical to our success, so increasing community collaboration is a priority for our Strategic Plan 2022. School Governance Councils (SGCs) are a key player in community collaboration, as they serve as a representative of the community and as a primary connection point between the school and the community. We have made substantial progress as a district over the past several years in our transition to a charter system, creating councils to make local decisions at each school, but more can be done to ensure councils are consistently effective at every school across the district. This initiative will provide the support and resources to do that.

When we're done...

By 2022, we will ensure:

- All SGCs will be considered “effective,” based on an effectiveness tool that is currently being developed.
- There will be increased support for the schools and SGCs from the community and more people will participate in councils and in council elections.
- Schools will successfully achieve the goals established in their school strategic plans.

What will we do to get there?

To achieve these 2022 outcomes, we will:

- **Define the characteristics of effective councils:** We will articulate a districtwide definition of effective, based on research and experience, then collect and use data on which councils are effective to ensure training and support targeted to individual council needs.
- **Provide training and support:** We will help councils with a diversity of perspective, shared responsibility, and becoming more effective. Support will include:
 - o Tools and resources for principals and council members
 - o Customized facilitation and coaching for principals and council members
 - o Direct training for principals and council members
 - o Cross-council sharing and learning opportunities
- **Facilitate and support school-level strategic planning and monitoring:** We will lead the process for SGCs to develop their own, aligned strategic plans and help them establish systems for regularly monitoring progress on the plans and adjusting as needed to ensure success.