

School Site Council (SSC)

Quick Reference Guide for Parents & Community Involvement

What is the School Site Council (SSC)?

- The School Site Council (SSC) is a group of parents, teachers, students, school staff, and community members who collaborate to help improve the school's performance.
- It is required in California public schools by state law (Education Code 52852) and plays a critical role in school decision-making.

Main Functions of the SSC:

1. **Develop & Review School Plans:**
 - Helps create and update the school's **Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)**, which outlines goals and strategies for improving academic performance and school climate.
2. **Monitor Spending:**
 - Reviews and approves the use of categorical funds to ensure resources are directed toward student success.
3. **Evaluate School Progress:**
 - Analyzes data, such as test scores and other metrics to monitor progress toward school goals.

Who Makes Up the SSC?

- The SSC is typically composed of:
 - **Parents/Guardians** (majority for elementary schools)
 - **Teachers**
 - **School Staff (Classified)**
 - **Principal**
 - **Students** (in high schools)
- The number of parents and staff must be equal. Elementary SSC typically has ten members and secondary SSC has twelve members minimum.

Why Should Parents and Community Members Join?

1. **Influence School Decisions:**
 - Have a direct voice in how resources are used and how the school addresses student needs.
2. **Stay Informed:**
 - Gain a deeper understanding of the school's goals, budget, and strategies for improving student success.
3. **Support Students:**
 - Your involvement can help ensure that the school's plan reflects the needs of all students.
4. **Build Community:**
 - Strengthen ties between families, school staff, and the community.

How Can Parents Get Involved?

- **Attend Meetings:** SSC meetings are open to all. Check with your school for dates and times.
- **Join the Council:** Elections are held regularly to select parent representatives.
- **Share Your Ideas:** Participate in discussions and offer input on school plans and budgets.

How Often Does the SSC Meet?

- Meetings typically occur **monthly**, but frequency can vary by school. Participation in these meetings can be in-person or online depending on the school's policies.

Contact Information:

- For more details, contact the school office or the SSC chairperson to learn about opportunities to participate or nominate yourself for a position on the council.

This reference sheet is designed to inform and encourage parent and community involvement in the SSC process, highlighting the importance of their role in school improvement.