

1.3.2 ACTIVITIES - GUIDELINES

1. School councils should meet periodically with:
 - a. Members of the professional staff serving in the school they represent.
 - b. Other committees serving schools if communication is relevant.
 - c. School's PTA/PTO executive board.
 - d. System-wide in-service type experiences.
 - e. Individuals and/or special interest groups within the school community.
2. The meetings of the councils are for the primary purpose of:
 - a. Becoming knowledgeable of relative strengths and weaknesses of programs, policies, procedures, and facilities.
 - b. Determining ways that the quality and quantity of educational opportunities for students can become more meaningful through the efforts of school patrons.
 - c. Objectively studying suggestions, priority assertions by patrons on matters of intra-school and total school system policies, practices, and needs.
 - d. Studying of fiscal structures and problems of both the individual school and of the total system.
 - e. Determining ways the school facilities of Davidson County can be used to extend the valuable community resource they represent to the total school community as encouraged by Office of School/Community Relations.
3. So that, through their comprehensive indoctrination of proper and wholesome perspective, the Council might effectively provide advice, support and guidance to the legally responsible officials--principal, superintendent, and the board of education--on those matters incumbent for a vibrant and dynamic service to all the children entrusted to their charge.
4. School advisory councils should:
 - a. Serve as advisor, counselor, sounding board, "buffer," enthusiastic supporter, constructive critic, etc.
 - b. Be sensitive to controversies which could conceivably deter a higher and more noble service to youth.

- c. Become apprised of school programs and activities by visiting schools and sharing in their offerings.
- f. React to issues as a body instead of as an individual. Assign responsibility for preparation of agendas for meetings to assure meaningful direction.
- g. Establish regular time and place for meetings.
- h. Preserve information and materials as a ready reference file.

5. A school advisory council should not:

- a. Involve itself in personnel matters or individual student problems.
- b. Get involved as a body in fund-raising or fund-directing activities.
- c. Become a negatively oriented pressure group.
- d. Assume authority for direct action or decision-making within the schools.
- e. Become involved as a body in political issues or campaigns.

Revised: May 14, 1998; November 7, 2005