



School Governance Councils (SGCs) Board of Education Celebration and Roundtable Discussion

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School Governance Councils (SGC) Overview

School Governance Council Board of Education Policy #1211

- Fall 2009 - Hartford became the first public school district in Connecticut to implement School Governance Councils (SGCs) to provide an opportunity for parents, teachers, community members, and students to work together, in the spirit of cooperation in the decision-making process
- In 2010, Public Act 10-111 enacted School Governance Councils statewide, modeled after Hartford's SGCs, to improve student achievement in the state's lowest performing schools
- SGCs engage all stakeholders in the mission of closing the achievement gap and sustaining school reform

2013-2014 SGC Membership

(as of May 27, 2014)

District-wide Membership

Year	Parents	Teachers/Staff	Community	Students	Total
2013-14	302	216	77	22	617
2012-13	259	189	67	15	530
2011-12	254	194	67	11	526
2010-11	185	137	45	12	379

School Spotlight/Best Practices

School	Principal Co-Chair	Parent Chair
Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School (PK-8)	Doreen Crawford	Malachi Davis
Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan (PK-5)	Jose Colon	Jessica Santana
Montessori Magnet @ Moylan (PK-3)	Carolyn Havrda	Jonathan Seamans
Pathways Academy of Technology and Design (9-12)	David Goldblum	Marie Harvey

Successes/Challenges in 2013-2014

Successes

- Training schedules set and published in advance for 2013-2014 had a positive impact on the functioning of SGCs
 - SGCs received ample and comprehensive individual and group trainings and 18 schools were provided with SGC process coaches
 - SGC participation in the Principal Interview Process yielded 7 principal vacancies filled
 - SGCs training in group dynamics, empowerment, member recruitment and retention and necessity for regular meetings is an ongoing need
 - The principal's leadership in ensuring an effectively functioning SGC and Parent Chair engagement and effectiveness continue to be key elements to highly effective SGCs
- SGC Policy revised by BOE in October 2013 for coherence and clarify

Challenges

- Recruitment, retention, and attendance at SGC meetings

Recommendations for School Year 2014-15

1. Implement SGC district website page to serve as a resource for all SGCs and the public
2. Continue working with Portfolio Directors to support principals' accountability in forming and maintaining complete and effective SGCs to ensure full compliance with Board of Education SGC policy and state statute
3. Continue to provide training for SGCs on a variety of topics, based on their need, with an emphasis on team and consensus building processes
4. Work with principals and parent chairs to ensure effective and timely sharing of information with all school stakeholders (i.e. via school website, bulletin board, newsletter).