

COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To involve the public in the promotion of the highest feasible standards of educational excellence in Washington County Public Schools, and in compliance with the legal requirement referenced below, the Washington County Board of Education has created a standing Board advisory committee, known as the County Citizens Advisory Council. This council shall be comprised of representative parents, businesspersons, and community leaders who are interested in studying the issues relating to the pursuit of educational excellence.

THE COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

1. Provide ongoing support for the school citizens advisory committees.
2. Coordinate the study of school system issues as requested by the Board.
3. Make recommendations for school system improvements to the Board.
4. Participate in school system comprehensive planning as requested by the Board.
5. Foster understanding of Board policies and initiatives within the general public.
6. Serve as a body to react to educational proposals being developed.
7. Encourage participation in school affairs by the citizens of Washington County.
8. Be available to assist the Board in the promotion of program priorities to the school citizens advisory committees and to the general public.

MEMBERSHIP SPECIFICATIONS

The members of the County Citizens Advisory Council shall be appointed by the Board. Membership on the County Citizens Advisory Council shall be limited to no more than 15 members of the community. One (1) of the voting members shall be a representative from the county PTA; one (1) of the voting members shall be a representative from the school principals, as designated by the superintendent on a rotating basis among the elementary, middle and high school levels. Appointments shall consider representation from residents, parents, and businesses throughout the county, and community involvement. In addition to the chairperson, the Council shall have a vice-chairperson.

TERMS OF OFFICE

1. Individuals may be appointed to a term of office of up to four (4) years.
2. The terms of office may be staggered to allow for the rotation of up to 1/5 of the membership of the Committee over a two (2) year period.
3. No individual shall be appointed to serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms on the committee unless specifically exempted by the Board. Reappointment to a second term is not automatic.

OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS

1. Minutes of each council meeting shall be kept and forwarded promptly by the staff liaison to the Board and the Superintendent.
2. The Council will report to the Board as requested.
3. The reports to the Board shall focus on the following criteria of review:
 - a. school needs referred from school citizen advisory committees
 - b. results of issues studies
 - c. recommendations for school system improvements
 - d. consistency with the school system's current Master Plan, priorities and policies

Legal Reference: Section 4-112, *Annotated Code of Maryland*

Committee Charge adopted: July 20, 1999. Revised: November 21, 2006
Board of Education of Washington County