

## *Principal's Advisory Council*

The District believes family and community engagement is critical to student and district success. The establishment of Principal Advisory Councils (Councils) is intended to provide a means by which parents, community members, and school staff can work together to create a better understanding of and mutual respect for each other's concerns and share ideas for school improvement.

A Council functions as an advisory body, offering input to the local school principal on matters relating to student achievement and school improvement. The principal may seek input from the Council on a variety of topics which may include, but are not limited to, student achievement goals, student attendance, school improvement plans, curriculum, school budget priorities, communications strategies, school-based and community services, community use of school facilities, and early intervention services.

Membership for the Council should be representative of the stakeholders within the school community. Principals are responsible for selecting persons to serve on the Council each year. Suggested membership should include:

1. Two staff members (one being the current Teacher of the Year);
2. Two parents (one being the current PTSA president);
3. Two members of the community (one being a Partner in Education representative); and
4. In the case of high schools, the president of the student government organization or senior class president.

For schools with a Title I program, the Council meets the requirement for a stakeholder committee planning team. In addition to the suggested membership above, a counselor and a parent facilitator (if applicable) should be included on this team. This Council will also be engaged in conducting a comprehensive needs assessment, developing the school improvement plan, monitoring progress toward meeting the school improvement plan goals, and analyzing feedback from the fall and spring stakeholder input opportunities.

Principals should plan to meet with the Council at least three times each academic year (e.g., every ten to twelve weeks). Additional meetings can be scheduled as necessary.

Principals can request information from the District in order to better communicate with the Council regarding topics for which the Principal is seeking input. Those requests should be made through the appropriate level assistant superintendent's office.