

ARTICLE 11 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCILS

11.1 Purpose

The District and the Association agree to establish a process for involving professional educators in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of education for the purpose of improving student knowledge, skills and attitudes. The District and the Association agree to comply with the school site council requirements of the 21st Century Schools Act.

11.2 District Site Committee

The Joint Contract Administration Committee will function as the District Site Committee in matters related to the 21st Century Schools Act. The Joint Contract Administration Committee shall be solely responsible for establishing its own procedures for compliance with this Act. ~~Contract Administration shall be responsible for determining the procedures by which the site committees function.~~ Any such procedures shall be in compliance with the Agreement between the District and the Association.

11.3 Council Participation

Participation by professional educators on a school site council shall be voluntary. Council members shall be allotted as provided by law. The Association shall develop the rules by which the elections of professional educators shall be conducted. The head PAT representative shall conduct an annual secret ballot election no later than October 15 to select professional educators to the council.

11.4 Council Roles and Responsibilities

Actions and decisions of the council will be in accordance with law, existing Board policies, established administrative procedures and applicable collective bargaining agreements. Achieving consensus among site council members is a desired operational goal. ~~If consensus is not reached, the council shall make its determination by majority vote.~~ Professional educator on site councils shall be given copies of the site budget and other public documents upon request.

11.5 Implementation of Decisions

Prior to implementation of a council decision, it shall be communicated in writing to the professional educators at the school worksite. Once a decision is finally reached, it shall be implemented by all at the site. ~~However, if requested by twenty five percent (25%) of the professional educators, the pending decision shall be put to a vote of the professional educators. To implement the decision, a majority of those participating in the vote shall be required.~~

11.6 Meetings

When school site council meetings are held, business will be conducted by those members present. ~~Council meetings will be held within the bounds of the school workday and workweek. The District and the Association shall consider requests from school site councils asking for an exception to the meeting time requirements of this section.~~

11.7 Training of Councils

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The District and the Association will cooperate in the development of training programs. Costs of training shall be paid by the District.