

SAC Training



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Agenda and Outcomes

6:55-7:45pm

- Welcome and Introductions
- SAC/DAC Overview
- Question/Answer
- Closure
- Round Table Discussions later

Develop and apply effective leadership skills aligned with best-practice in order to successfully lead the school SAC in welcoming, encouraging, and supporting parents and family members as key partners in the education of our students.

Communicate and collaborate with others in regards to needs, resources and support.

Inspire others and influence purpose, passion, collaboration and teamwork.



Senate Bill 13-193 Increasing Parent Involvement in Public Schools

- Solicit parent participation on school and district accountability committees (SACs and DACs), including parents that represent the student population.
- Incorporate strategies on the Unified Improvement Plan to increase parent engagement in schools (Priority Improvement and Turnaround Schools).
- Each school district board of education shall adopt a district policy for increasing and supporting parent engagement in the public and charter schools of the district.
- Districts shall identify a family partnership point of contact for family engagement training and resources.





What is the purpose?

Spirit of SAC

The purpose of the SAC is to **inform, encourage and provide opportunities** for parent and community members to be involved in the planning and evaluation of the school's instructional program and quality improvement processes. The SAC makes **recommendations** concerning the school's Performance, Improvement, Priority Improvement, or Turnaround plan, and meets at least quarterly to discuss implementation of the school's plan and other progress pertinent to the school's accreditation contract with the Board of Education. **Final decision-making authority rests with the principal or other person or group receiving the recommendation** from the SAC (e.g., The Superintendent, District Accountability Committee ("DAC") or Board of Education).



Partnership Standards

Welcoming All Families

Communicating Effectively

Supporting Student Success

Speaking Up for Every Child

Sharing Power

Collaborating with the Community



Recruitment

1. **Recognize starting points**
 - Current strengths
 - Current challenges
2. **Identify who should participate (SPED, G&T, ELL, NSLP)**
3. **Partner with PTA, PTO, or other groups to identify potential parent and teacher leaders**
4. **Solicit input from teachers and other school staff**
5. **Identify a recruitment process**
 - **Elections, Communication**



Committee Composition

DAC Composition

- At least three parents of students enrolled in the district
- At least one teacher employed by the district
- At least one school administrator employed by the district
- At least one person involved in business in the community within the district boundaries

SAC Composition

- The principal or the principal's designee
- At least one teacher who provides instruction in the school
- At least three parents of students enrolled in the school
- At least one adult member of a PTSA
- At least one community member



Promising Practice Recommendations



- **Welcome all members**
- **Discuss and settle on protocols**
- **Set, and stick to clear, precise agendas**
- **Provide a specific job description of the roles, responsibilities, time frame, norms.**
- **Offer opportunities to work in subcommittees which have specific responsibilities**
- **Spend time team building, getting to know each other, sharing strengths and challenges.**
- **Share inviting and easily understood information in multiple formats - website, tweets, facebook, print, etc.**
- **Review Bylaws**
- **Maintain Accurate Information on School Website including Meeting dates, Agendas, Minutes and Contact information -**



SAC Responsibilities

Include but are not limited to:

- Making recommendations to the principal concerning priorities for spending school funds.
- Making recommendations concerning the preparation of the school's Unified Improvement Plan.
- Assisting the district in implementing at the school level the district's parent engagement policy
- Assisting school personnel to increase parents' engagement with teachers, including parents' engagement in creating students' READ plans, Individual Career and Academic Plans, and plans to address habitual truancy.
- Publicizing opportunities to serve and solicit parents to serve on the SAC.



DAC Responsibilities

- Making recommendations to the local school board priorities for spending school district moneys.
- Making recommendations concerning the preparation of the district's Unified Improvement Plan.
- Assisting the district in implementing the district's parent engagement policy
- Assisting school personnel to increase parents' engagement with teachers, including parents' engagement in creating students' READ plans, Individual Career and Academic Plans, and plans to address habitual truancy.
- Publicizing opportunities to serve and solicit parents to serve on the DAC.



Bylaw Basics

1. Adoption of the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) with goals and objectives for the improvement of education in the school.
2. To recommend to the principal its priorities for spending school moneys. The principal shall consider the SAC recommendations and take them into account in formulating budget requests for presentation to the Board of Education. The SAC shall send a copy of its recommended spending priorities to the DAC and to the Board of Education.
3. The SAC shall discuss at least quarterly:
 - Whether school leadership, personnel, and infrastructure are advancing or impeding implementation of the public school's performance, improvement, priority improvement, or turnaround plan, whichever is applicable, or other progress pertinent to the public schools' accreditation contract with the Board of Education.
 - Safety issues relative to the school environment.
 - Community concerns and input regarding aforementioned duties and responsibilities.



Bylaw Basics

5. When a school has been placed on a priority improvement or turnaround plan, the SAC shall advise the principal concerning the preparation of such plan, and submit recommendations concerning the content.

6. Report, at least annually, to the community and the Board of Education, on the educational performance of the school and provide data for the appraisal of such performance. (SIP Central)

7. Provide input and recommendations on an advisory basis to DAC and district administration concerning:
 - a. Principal development plans for their principal; and
 - b. Principal evaluations. (LEAD docs) *Reference: C.R.S. 22-11-402(1)(e)*



Bylaw Basics

7. Provide input and recommendations on an advisory basis to DAC and district administration concerning:
 - a. Principal development plans for their principal; and
 - b. Principal evaluations. (LEAD docs) *Reference: C.R.S. 22-11-402(1)(e)*

This does not mean evaluate your principal.

The SACs are able to provide recommendations to DAC and district administration on the process and system for evaluations. This can be input on things like the type of evaluations used, what metrics they find important, or the overall evaluation system itself. While any district's evaluation system must meet the guidelines outlined in S.B. 10-191, that law, in addition to the SAC statute, allows parents and guardians to provide input in that process.



Parent Liaison Statute

In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-142:

EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL IDENTIFY AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DISTRICT TO ACT AS THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR PARENT ENGAGEMENT TRAINING AND RESOURCES. THE IDENTIFIED PERSON SHALL ALSO SERVE AS THE LIAISON BETWEEN THE DISTRICT, THE DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE, THE COLORADO STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SHALL FACILITATE THE DISTRICT'S EFFORTS TO INCREASE PARENT INVOLVEMENT WITHIN THE DISTRICT



Best Practices Roundtable Discussions

Please list one thing – an activity, event or outreach method - that works well to engage parents at your high school, middle school and elementary schools. (If you don't have someone at each level, just list what works based on who is present.)

List one issue or challenge that impedes parental engagement at each level – elementary, middle or high.



Housekeeping

- **SAC and DAC are advisory committees, not a governing body.**
- **Both require Sunshine Laws: when 3 or more members of that committee meet to discuss SAC or DAC issues, the meeting is considered a public meeting and must have 24 hours notice.**
- **Charter school SACs also operate under state law, however, they report to their governing board, as well as the principal and District.**
- **SACs are required to make a good faith effort to comply in their responsibilities. The spirit of the SAC in encouraging positive and productive parental engagement is the standard.**



QUESTIONS?