

Governing Board

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Committed to Excellence

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL BYLAWS 2019 - 2020

ARTICLE I Duties of the School Site Council

The School Site Council for **Gonzales Unified School District schools**, hereinafter referred to as the council, shall carry out the following duties:

- Obtain recommendations for, and review of, the proposed School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) from all school advisory committees.
- Develop and approve the SPSA and related categorical expenditures in accordance with all state and federal law and district regulations.
- Recommend the SPSA and categorical expenditures to the GUSD Board of Education for approval.
- Provide ongoing review of the implementation of the SPSA with the principal, teachers, and other school staff members.
- Make modifications to the SPSA whenever the need arises.
- Submit the modified SPSA for district approval whenever a material change (as defined in district governing board policy) is made in planned activities or related categorical expenditures.
- Regularly evaluate the progress made toward school goals to raise the academic achievement of all students.
- Carry out all other duties assigned to the council by the GUSD Board of Education and by state law.

**ARTICLE II
Members**

Section A: Composition* (EC 52012 and 52852)

The council shall be composed of the following members, the principal, and classroom teachers elected by other classroom teachers, other school personnel elected by other school personnel, parents elected by other parents, in secondary schools students elected by the entire student body, and community members elected by such parents. Classroom teachers are the majority on the school staff side. **Each member has equal voting rights.**

ELEMENTARY MODEL

Parents/Community Members 50%	School Staff 50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents must have a child currently enrolled in the school. • Parents/community members may not be employed at the school site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal (automatic member) • Minimum of three (3) Classroom Teachers • Minimum of one (1) <i>Other School Personnel*</i> <p>Classroom teachers must be in the majority</p>
Minimum of five (5)	Minimum of five (5)

SECONDARY MODEL

<i>Parents/Community/Student Members 50%</i>	<i>Other School Staff 50%</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents must have a child currently enrolled in the school. • Parents/community members may not be employed at the school site. • Students must be currently enrolled in the school and shall be elected by the entire student body. • Nomination forms will be made available to students. All students nominated by their peers MUST accept the nomination prior to their name being placed on the official ballot. • Once the official ballot has been created, the currently enrolled students will vote for student members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal (automatic member) • Minimum of four (4) Classroom Teachers • Minimum of one (1) <i>Other School Personnel *</i> <p>Classroom teachers must be in the majority.</p>

Minimum of Six (6)	Minimum of six (6)
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The principal is responsible for the elections of staff members.

At the elementary level, the council shall be constituted to ensure parity. Half of the membership shall be (a) principal, classroom teachers and other school personnel; and half shall be (b) parents, or other community members elected by the parents. The council will be made up of no fewer than 10 members..

At the secondary level, the council shall be constituted to ensure parity. Half of the membership shall be a combination of (a) principal, classroom teachers and other school personnel (staff side); and half shall be (b) parents, or community members elected by the parents and students elected by the entire student body (parent/student side). All students are eligible to run for SSC student office. The council will be made up of no fewer than 12 members*. **Middle schools and alternative schools may select either the elementary or secondary model (EC 33133-c).**

Parent Members

A parent is a person who is a mother, father or legal guardian of a student attending a particular school, but who is not employed at the school attended by such student. Council members chosen to represent parents may be employees of the school district so long as they are not employed at the school site (EC 52852).

Classroom Teacher Members

A classroom teacher is defined as an employee of the school whose duties require him/her to provide direct instruction to pupils for the full time for which he/she is employed and has a student roster.

Other School Personnel - Other school personnel are defined as a person who does not provide direct instruction to pupils for the full time for which he/she is employed. This category may include classified staff, non-classroom teachers, and administrative staff other than the principal.

Student Representatives (*Secondary Model*)

Any student enrolled at the school with which the council is affiliated is eligible to be elected as a student representative.

Community Members

A community member is defined as an adult who resides or spends the major portion of each work day within the attendance area of the school; who is neither a student at the school, nor a parent, a member of the staff, administration or classified staff of the school with which the council is affiliated or a community member within the district boundaries.

The council shall be composed of 10 members (elementary model) or 12 members (secondary model) members, selected by their peers, as follows:

- ✓ Classroom teachers (*must be the majority of staff composition*)
- ✓ Other school personnel
- ✓ Principal (*ex officio*)
- ✓ Parents or community members
- ✓ Students (secondary)

The school principal shall be an ex officio member of the council. The principal or his/her designee shall attend all SSC meetings; however, *only the principal may vote* on actions. Council members chosen to represent parents may be employees of the school district as long as they are not employed at the school site.

Section B: Term of Office

Council members shall be elected for two-year terms. Half, or the nearest approximation thereof, of each representative group shall be elected during odd years, and the remaining number of elected members during even years. At the first regular meeting of the council, each member's current term of office shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Section C: Voting Rights

Each member of the council is entitled to one vote and may cast that vote on any matter submitted to a vote of the council. **Absentee (proxy) and any electronic votes shall not be permitted.**

Section D: Termination of Membership

The council may, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all its members, suspend or expel a member for the following reasons,

- The member can no longer uphold the duties for which they were elected.
- The (community) member no longer resides in the schools attendance boundaries.
- The (parent) member no longer has a student enrolled at the school.
- Automatic termination for unexcused absences from (3) consecutive meetings (written warning to be given after the (2nd) missed meeting).

Any elected member may terminate his or her membership by submitting a written letter of resignation to the council chairperson.

Section E: Transfer of Membership

Membership on the council may not be assigned or transferred.

Section F: Vacancy

- If a member vacancy occurring during the year results in the membership constituting less than the required number of members, the SSC must conduct an election to fill the vacancy at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Public notification must be provided, and this item must be listed on the posted agenda.
- An officer vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled by election for the remaining portion of the term at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Only qualifying SSC members are eligible to fill the vacancy. Public notice must be provided and the item listed on the agenda.

ARTICLE III Elections of Council Members

- The school principal is a standing member of the council.
- Classroom teacher elections will be held in September.
 - The classroom teacher membership will be elected into rotational positions of two years.
 - Nominations and elections are conducted by classroom teachers.

- “Other” school personnel elections will be held in September.
 - The “other” staff membership will be elected into rotational positions of two years.
 - Nominations and elections are conducted by “other” school personnel.

- Parent/Community Member representative elections will be conducted in September.
 - Nominations and elections will be conducted by the school office staff.
 - Announcement of the nominations will be included in the May, June, and September issues of the school newsletter, website. The announcement will also be posted on the School Marquee.
 - Nominations will be accepted in September.

- Student representative elections will be conducted in September.
 - All students are eligible for student member positions. The entire student body will have the opportunity to participate in student elections.
 - During the month of September, nomination forms will be made available to students.
 - All students nominated by their peers MUST accept the nomination prior to their name being placed on the official ballot.
 - Once the official ballot has been created, the currently enrolled students will vote for student members.
 - The students who receive the most votes will be the student members; the student receiving the next highest number of votes will be the student alternate.

All election ballots and result records will be maintained at the school site for **five (5) years**.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section A: Officers

The officers of the council shall be a president, vice/co-president, secretary, and other officers the council may deem desirable.

The chairman shall:

- Collaborate with the principal in developing agendas and reviewing minutes prior to posting.
- Preside at all meetings of the council.
- Sign all letters, reports, and other communications of the council.
- Perform all duties incident to the office of the chairman.
- Have other such duties as are prescribed by the council.

The vice/co-chairman shall:

- Represent the chairman in assigned duties.
- Substitute for the chairman in his/her absence.

The secretary shall:

- Keep minutes of all regular and special meetings of the council.

- Transmit true and correct copies of the minutes of such meetings to members of the council.
- Provide all notices in accordance with these bylaws.
- Keep a register of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each member of the council, the chairman of school advisory committees, and others with whom the council has regular dealings, as furnished by those persons.
- Perform other such duties as assigned by the chairman or the council.

Section B: Election and Terms of Office

The officers shall be elected annually, at the first meeting of the council, and shall serve for one year, or until each successor has been elected.

Section C: Removal of Officers

Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of all the members.

Section D: Vacancy

A vacancy in any office shall be filled at the earliest opportunity by a special election of the council, for the remaining portion of the term of office.

**ARTICLE V
Committees**

Section A: Sub-committees

The council may establish and abolish sub-committees of their own membership to perform duties as shall be prescribed by the council. At least one member representing teachers and one member representing parents shall make up the sub-committee. No sub-committee may exercise the authority of the council.

Section B: Terms of Office

The council shall determine the terms of office for members of a committee.

Section C: Rules

Each committee may adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with these bylaws or rules adopted by the council, or policies of the district governing board.

**ARTICLE VI
Meetings of the Council**

Section A: Meetings

The School Site Council shall meet regularly at least once a month. Special meetings of the School Site Council may be called by the Chairperson or by a majority vote of the School Site Council.

Section B: Quorum

The act of a majority of the members present shall be the act of the School Site Council, provided a quorum is in attendance; and no decision may otherwise be attributed to the School Site Council. A majority of the members of the School Site Council shall constitute a quorum. Any meeting may continue without a quorum for purposes of presentations or discussions; however, **action or voting may not take place without a quorum.**

Section C: Location of Meetings

The School Site Council shall hold its regular meetings at a facility provided by the school, unless such a facility is not accessible to the public or handicapped persons. Alternate meeting places may be recommended by a majority of the committee but must be approved by the school administrator.

Section D: Notice of Meetings

Written public notice and agendas shall be given of all meetings at least seventy-two hours in advance of the meeting, except in the case of an emergency meeting. Changes in the established date, time or location shall be given special notice. All meetings shall be publicized in the following venues: posted outside and on the school website. All required notices shall be provided to School Site Council and committee members no less than seventy-two (72) hours, and no more than six days in advance of the meeting, personally, by mail or by e-mail.

Section E: Conduct of Meetings

Meetings of the School Site Council shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of order established by the California Education Code Section 3147(c) and with Robert's Rules of Order or an adaptation thereof approved by the School Site Council.

Section F: Special Emergency Meetings

Notices and agendas must be posted twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting. Notices should be posted in a visible and accessible area outside the meeting location and on the school website.

Section G: Meetings Open to the Public

All meetings of the School Site Council shall be open to the public and conducted in accordance with the California Open Meeting Law (Greene Act). Notice of such meetings shall be provided in accordance with Section D of this article.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

An amendment of these Bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of the council by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Written notice of the proposed amendment must be submitted to council members at least 3 days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered for adoption.