

SCHOOL PLANS/SITE COUNCILS

The Board of Trustees believes that comprehensive planning at each district school is necessary in order to focus school improvement efforts on student academic achievement and facilitate the effective use of district resources. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school plans provide clear direction and identify cohesive strategies aligned with school and district goals.

For any school that participates in specified state and/or federal categorical programs, the school site council or other schoolwide advisory committee shall consolidate the plans required for those categorical programs into a single plan for student achievement (SPSA). (Education Code 52055.755, 64001)

As appropriate, a school may incorporate any other school plan into the SPSA. (Education Code 64001)

The Superintendent or designee shall review each school's SPSA to ensure that it meets the content requirements for all programs included, is based on an analysis of current practices and student academic performance, and reasonably links improvement strategies to identified needs of the school and students. He/she shall submit to the Board his/her recommendations for plan approval or revision.

The Board shall review and approve each school's SPSA and any subsequent material revisions affecting the academic programs for students participating in the categorical programs addressed in the SPSA. The Board shall certify that, to the extent allowable under federal law, the SPSA is consistent with district local improvement plans required as a condition of receiving federal funding. Any such review and approval shall be at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. (Education Code 64001)

Whenever the Board does not approve a school's SPSA, it shall communicate its specific reasons for disapproval of the plan to the school site council or committee. The school site council or committee shall then revise and resubmit the SPSA to the Board for its approval.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school administrators and school site council members receive training on the roles and responsibilities of the site council.

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School Site Councils

School site councils shall be established when required for participation in a categorical program. (Education Code 52852, 64001)

The school site council shall be composed of the following: (Education Code 52852)

1. The principal
2. Teachers selected by the school's teachers
3. Other school personnel chosen by the school's other personnel
4. Parent/guardian representatives, who may include parents/guardians of students attending school and/or community members, selected by parents/guardians of students attending the school
5. In secondary schools, students attending the school selected by other such students

Half of the school site council membership shall consist of school staff, the majority of whom shall be classroom teachers. For elementary school site councils, the remaining half shall be equal numbers of parent/guardian representatives and students. (Education Code 52852)

A district employee may serve as a parent/guardian representative on the site council of the school his/her child attends, provided the employee does not work at that school. (Education Code 52852)

The bylaws of each school site council shall include the method of selecting members and officers, terms of office, responsibilities of council members, time commitment, and a policy of nondiscrimination.

School site councils may function on behalf of other committees in accordance with law. (Education Code 52176, 52870, 54425; 5 CCR 3932)

School site councils shall operate in accordance with procedural meeting requirements established in Education Code 35147.

Single Plan for Student Achievement

In order for a school to participate in any state or federal categorical program specified in Education Code 52055.700 or 64000 on an ongoing basis, the school site council shall approve and annually review and update a single plan for student achievement (SPSA). (Education Code 52055.755, 64001)

The SPSA shall be developed with the review, advice, and certification of any applicable school advisory committees. (Education Code 64001)

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Such groups may include, but are not limited to, advisory committees established for categorical programs such as English learner, special education, advanced learner, and Economic Impact Aid programs; district or school liaison teams for schools identified for program improvement; and other committees established by the school or district.

The SPSA shall be aligned with school goals for improving student achievement. School goals shall be based on an analysis of verifiable state data, including the Academic Performance Index (API) and the California English Language Development Test, and may consider any other data developed by the district to measure student achievement. (Education Code 64001)

The SPSA shall, at a minimum: (Education Code 64001)

1. Address how funds provided to the school through specified categorical programs will be used to improve the academic performance of all students to the level of the performance goals established by the API
2. Identify the means of evaluating the school's progress toward accomplishing those goals
3. Identify how state and federal law governing the categorical programs will be implemented

In addition to meeting the requirements common to all applicable school plans, the SPSA shall address any content required by law for each individual categorical program in which the school participates.

In developing or revising the SPSA, the school site council or other schoolwide advisory group or school support group shall:

1. Analyze student achievement data. Using measures of student academic performance, the school shall identify significant patterns of low performance in particular content areas, student groups, and/or individual students and determine which data summaries to include in the plan as most informative and relevant to school goals.
2. Assess the effectiveness of the school's instructional program in relation to the analysis of student data.
3. Identify a limited number of achievement goals and key improvement strategies to achieve the goals. School goals shall reflect the needs identified at the school site while aligning with goals identified in federally required district plans. The school shall specify the student group(s) on which each goal is focused, the methods or practices that will be used to reach the goal, and the criteria that will be used to determine if the goal is achieved.
4. Define timelines, personnel responsible, proposed expenditures, and funding sources to implement the SPSA.

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The school site council or other schoolwide group shall approve the proposed SPSA at a meeting for which public notice has been posted and then submit the SPSA to the Governing Board for approval. (Education Code 35147, 64001)

The school site council or other schoolwide group shall regularly monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the SPSA and modify any activities that prove ineffective. At least once per year, the school shall evaluate results of improvement efforts and report to the Board, advisory committees, and other interested parties regarding progress toward school goals.

The school site council or other schoolwide group may amend the SPSA at any time. Any revisions that would substantively change the academic programs funded through the consolidated application shall be submitted to the Board for approval.