

# Get Involved In Your Child's Education

## Join the School Council



### What is School Council?

- School councils bring communities and schools closer together in a spirit of cooperation to solve education problems, to improve academic achievement, to provide support for teachers and administrators, and to bring parents into the decision making process. School-based decision making is designed to increase the involvement of teachers, parents, and the community in the important decisions about how the school operates and performs.

### Members Requirements

- School council members have been trained to organize meetings and develop school council bylaws, understand advisory status and authority, recognize legal issues such as open meetings and open records laws and confidentiality, make recommendations to increase student achievement, and to create a school improvement plan. Councils provide an opportunity for local school decisions by representing the interests of that school council to the principal, who in turn conveys the information to the area assistant superintendents, Superintendent, and if necessary the Board of Education.

### For More Information

- <http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/school-councils>

**See Parent /Guardian Nominees (Back Page)**

# Parent/Guardian Nominees

(For the purpose of this document the term parent includes legal guardians.)

The establishment of school councils is intended to help local boards of education by bringing parents and the community together with teachers and school administrators to create a better understanding of, and mutual respect for, each other's concerns and to share ideas for school improvement.

The law governing school councils was amended to provide that parents hold a majority on the council and that a parent must serve as the chairperson.

The school council, with a minimum membership of one principal, two teachers and four parents, two of whom shall be business persons, are organized to provide advice and recommendations to the school principal and, where necessary, to the Regional Superintendent, Superintendent and local Board of Education. Among issues that the council shall advise and determine recommendations for include, but are not limited to the following:

- Student attendance and academic achievement
- School board policies
- Consolidated School Improvement Plans
- Curriculum and assessments
- Report cards issued or audits of the school conducted by the Office of Student Achievement
- Development of a school profile which shall contain data as identified by the school council to describe the academic performance, academic progress, services, awards, interventions environment, and other such data as the school council deems appropriate
- School budget priorities, including school capital improvement plans
- School-community communication strategies
- Methods of involving parents and the community
- Extracurricular activities in the school
- School-based and community services
- Community use of school facilities
- Student discipline
- Reports from the principal regarding progress toward the school's student achievement goals, including progress within specific grade levels and subject areas and by school personnel
- The method and specifications for the delivery of early intervention services or other appropriate services for underachieving students.

Parents of children in \_\_\_\_\_ School are invited to nominate the parent of a child or children enrolled in \_\_\_\_\_ School who would be interested in serving as a parent representative on the school council. Please write a brief paragraph (no more than 100 words) indicating reasons your nominee should be elected and attach a picture. The paragraph and picture of candidate are optional.

Nominations should be sent to the principal's office. Nominations will close at the end of the day on \_\_\_\_\_. The election will be held on \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_ a.m. to \_\_\_\_ p.m. at the school.

Employees in the school who are also parents of students enrolled in the school are excluded from serving as a parent representative. Such employees with children in another school are eligible to serve on that school's council. Members of the council must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.

Only parents eligible to serve on the council will be able to vote. Parents from feeder schools in transition to middle schools or middle to high schools are eligible to be nominated and serve on the school council.

Please visit the school or call the principal if you have questions or need additional information at \_\_\_\_\_.