

Bullitt East High School SBDM COUNCIL BYLAWS

I. COMPOSITION AND TERMS

A. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The council will consist of the principal, three teacher members, and two parent members. If the minority enrollment at the school was eight percent or higher on the October 1 preceding the start of a new council term, the council will also include at least one minority member.

B. TERMS-

Terms of council members will be one year, beginning July 1 and ending June 30 of the following year. Teachers and parent council members are allowed to seek re-election to serve consecutive terms as long as they are eligible.

C. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Leave of absence for a council member will not be granted.

II. ELIGIBILITY AND ELECTIONS

Eligibility:

- By law, teacher council members must hold a position at the school that requires a state certificate but not the position of principal, assistant principal, or head teacher, and they must be elected by a majority of the teachers.
- A teacher who has never served on a council before will be considered a new member and must obtain 6 hours of training no later than 30 days after the start of his or her term.
- A teacher who has previously served on any school council will be considered an experienced member and must receive 3 hours of training no later than 120 days after the start of his or her term.
- Elected council members should plan to attend all regularly scheduled council meetings as well as any special called meetings.

Teacher Selection Process:

Step 1: TEACHER ELECTION CHAIRS

At the April faculty meeting, the teachers present should select two Teacher Election Chairs from among the teachers who do not intend to run for the council that year. Teachers should be told that the selected chairs will be totally responsible for running the election and that the election must be held by May 1st. The names should be recorded in the minutes.

Step 2: PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION

The Election Chairs should notify the teachers that by May 1st any teacher who is willing and able to run should give them a signed letter of intent simply saying they want to run. The notice should include the deadline for turning in the letter of intent, and could include the following information:

By law, teacher council members must hold a position at the school that requires a state certificate but not the position of principal, assistant principal, or head teacher, and they must be elected by a majority of the teachers.



A teacher who has never served on a council before will be considered a new member and must obtain 6 hours of training no later than 30 days after the start of his or her term.

A teacher who has previously served on any school council will be considered an experienced member and must receive 3 hours of training no later than 120 days after the start of his or her term.

Elected council members should plan to attend all regularly scheduled council meetings as well as any special called meetings.

Step 3: NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

The Election Chairs should set the date, time, and place for the election as soon as possible to give teachers ample notice. The Election Chairs should notify teachers of the upcoming election and post signs to remind them of the particulars. For example, a sign could read:

Notification of Elections for SBDM Teacher Representatives. The election will be held on (date) at (time) in the (place).

At least five school days before the scheduled election, the Election Chairs should prepare a sample ballot that includes the following:

1. The date, time, and place of the election.
2. An alphabetical list of the teachers who are running for election.
3. A reminder that attendance by everyone is important since a teacher must have a majority vote of the teachers in the school to be elected.

STEP 4: THE ELECTION

Each teacher who comes to the election meeting should be given a ballot listing the same names as those on the sample ballot. They should be told to vote for the number of seats that are vacant.

The Election Chairs should collect the ballots and count them in the room, announcing the results before the teachers adjourn. Any person receiving a majority vote on this ballot will serve as a council member in the coming year.

If not enough candidates receive majority votes then a run-off election should be held to fill the remaining council seats. This should be done during this same election meeting. The Election Chairs should remove from the ballot the name of any person already elected with a majority vote and the name of the person who received the fewest votes. Using this amended ballot, the teachers should vote again for the number of persons needed to fill the remaining vacancies. Any person receiving a majority of votes should be deemed elected. This process of removing the bottom vote-getter should be repeated as many times as necessary to elect candidates by majority to all open positions.

Parent Selection Process: The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) of Bullitt East High School shall formulate the guidelines utilized to select the parent representatives of the SBDM Council. These guidelines are to meet the Bullitt County Board of Education statement of policy regarding SBDM. The same dates listed above shall be followed for parent selection and submitted to SBDM Council by May 31st.

Terms: Each Council member shall be elected for a one (1) year term that begins July 1st and ends June 30th. Parents and teachers are eligible for re-election. If the number of candidates is less than the number of position(s) the position(s) to be filled will be declared vacant and be treated under the remaining content of this By-Law.

Election Results Reporting: The principal shall report new members to the public through the local newspaper and the school newsletter. The superintendent shall be notified in writing by the principal.

Filling Vacancies:



In the event a vacancy on the Council occurs, the vacancy shall be filled by the respective group in the same way as in the original election. The vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term. The principal shall inform the respective group of the vacancy and help establish a time line for completion of the election.

III. COUNCIL REQUIREMENTS

A. TRAINING FOR NEW MEMBERS

A member elected for the first time will complete a minimum of six hours of training in the process of school-based decision making no later than thirty (30) days after the start of his or her term. He or she can get that training any time between the date elected and the 30-day deadline. A person endorsed by the Kentucky Department of Education must provide this training.

B. TRAINING FOR EXPERIENCED MEMBERS

A member elected who has served on a council previously will complete at least three hours of training in the process of school-based decision making no later than one-hundred-twenty (120) days after the start of his or her term. This training may be obtained up to a year before the 120-day deadline. A person endorsed by the Kentucky Department of Education must provide this training. Experienced members may get training credit by attending any of the approved SBDM training workshops offered by endorsed trainers.

C. TRAINING FOR MID-YEAR VACANCIES

Members who are elected to fill a vacant position in the middle of the year will complete the required training no more than thirty (30) days after they are elected. A person endorsed by the Kentucky Department of Education must provide this training.

D. TRAINING REPORTING

By November 1st each year, the principal will ensure that names, addresses, and the training completed of each council member are reported to the Kentucky Department of Education.

E. BACKGROUND CHECK FOR PARENT MEMBERS

KRS 160.380(10) requires that parent school council representatives must submit to a criminal fingerprint background check by the Kentucky State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The results of the background check are sent to the school district superintendent.

F. YOUR DUTY UNDER THE LAW, AND MANAGING PUBLIC RECORDS

All council members will sign a form saying they have received and read the two documents: *Your Duty Under the Law*, and *Managing Public Records*.

G. PERMISSION LETTER TO RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATION

Council members who choose to receive notification of special called meetings by email will sign a permission letter that will be kept in the school office.

IV. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

A. ATTENDANCE



Members of the council will attend all council meetings. If a member is unable to attend a meeting, he or she will notify the Chair of the Council. If a member is unable to attend on a consistent basis, the Chair of the Council will contact the member to consult and to discuss the possibility of resignation. A member who has three unexcused absences from council meetings will resign.

B. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No one may serve on a school council who has a conflict of interest pursuant to KRS 45A [KRS 160.345(2)(a)]. A member who discovers a business or financial interest (not covered by KRS 45A), which may cause the appearance of impropriety, should refrain from participating in any discussions or decisions involving those interests.

C. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

Any member who ceases to be eligible to serve on the council will resign.

D. IMPROPER MEETING

Council members will not meet to discuss council business in a group that constitutes a quorum without following the procedures for scheduling a meeting of the full council in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and described in Section VI of these bylaws.

E. INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE WITH SCHOOL-BASED DECISION MAKING

No member of the council will intentionally engage in a pattern of practice which is detrimental to the successful implementation of or which circumvents the school-based decision making process.

V. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

A member who violates the standards of conduct and does not submit a written letter of resignation to the council could be reprimanded or removed in one of the following ways:

A. COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner of Education can recommend removal for immorality, misconduct in office, incompetence, and willful neglect of duty or nonfeasance. The local board of education then holds a hearing into the charges to decide whether removal is warranted.

B. OFFICE OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY

The Office of Education Accountability (OEA) can investigate claims of intentional interference with school-based decision-making. If the OEA cannot resolve the issue, it is forwarded to the Kentucky Board of Education, which holds a hearing to determine whether the charges are valid. The first time the Kentucky Board finds a person guilty of such interference, the person will receive a reprimand. The second time, the person can be removed from office.

VI. MEETINGS

A. ALL MEETINGS

1. Council meetings will comply with the requirements of the Open Meetings Law.



2. Council meetings will be open to the public unless the council goes into closed session under the provisions of the Open Meetings Law as outlined in subsection D of this section.

B. REGULAR MEETINGS

1. At the first council meeting on or after July 1st each year, the council will designate a regular meeting time and place.
2. The principal will post a copy of the regular meeting schedule in the teachers' workroom and in a place regularly accessible to parents. He or she will use any other methods deemed appropriate to make the schedule readily available to the public.

C. SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. Any meeting not at the regular meeting time or place is a special meeting.
2. A special meeting of the council may be called by the chairperson or by a majority of council members.
3. Any special meeting of the council will comply with the requirements of the Open Meetings Law; therefore, the following steps will be taken:
 - a. Written Notice The person or persons calling the meeting will prepare and sign a written notice that states the date, time, and place of the special meeting and an agenda for the meeting. Only issues listed on that agenda may be discussed at the special meeting. Items may be subtracted from that agenda before approval at the meeting but they cannot be added or revised.
 - b. Delivery Of Notice The person or persons calling the meeting will arrange for the written notice to be delivered to every council member and to any media organization that has made a written request to be notified of council meetings. The delivery can be made ONLY by hand, fax, US mail, or email. To receive email notification, a written request must be on file at the school. (See Attachment B) The notice will arrive at least 24 hours before the time set for the meeting. At the first meeting of each new term there will be an agenda item asking which members want to be notified about special meetings via email. The responses will be recorded in the minutes.
 - c. Posting Of Notice The notice will be posted conspicuously at the school, and also at the building where the meeting will be held if the meeting will not be held at the school. These copies will be posted as soon as possible after the meeting is called, but definitely no less than 24 hours before the meeting will be held.

D. CLOSED SESSIONS

The council may go into closed session only to discuss hiring personnel, the school's emergency plan, or actual or pending litigation. The following procedures will be followed to go into a closed session:

1. A motion will be made and a vote taken that the council go into closed session to discuss individual applicants for hiring under KRS 61.810(1)(f), or the school's emergency plan under under KRS 61.810(1)(k) and (m); KRS 61.878(1)(m); and KRS 158.162(2), or litigation under KRS 61.810(1)(c). (See Attachment C)
2. The motion and results of the vote including the statute number allowing the closed session will be recorded in the council minutes.
3. People who have relevant or needed knowledge or information may be invited into a council closed session by a consensus of the council.
4. Only the topic announced in the open session motion may be discussed in the closed session.
5. No council action may be taken in a closed session.
6. The council will return to open session to make any decisions.
7. The decisions will be recorded in the council minutes.

E. PUBLIC INPUT

1. Every agenda will include a public comment item.



2. Public input may be informal with the chairperson calling on persons who wish to speak.
3. If more than several people wish to speak, the chairperson will have the option of setting time limits for speakers based on the time allotted for this item, the number wishing to speak, and any extra time left on the agenda; or if the agenda will run over, by consensus of the members present to continue.

VII. AGENDAS

A. AGENDA REQUESTS

Anyone may submit items for inclusion on the agenda to the chairperson. Items must be submitted no later than ten school days before a scheduled meeting.

B. PRELIMINARY AGENDA

The chairperson will prepare a preliminary agenda, marked as such, to be posted in the teacher's lounge and posted in a place readily accessible to all parents and distributed to all council members at least five (5) school days before each regularly scheduled council meeting. Each preliminary agenda will include the following items:

1. Opening Business
 - a. Approval of the Agenda
 - b. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
 - c. Good News Report(s) / Celebrations
 - d. Public Comment
2. PTSO Updates
3. School Improvement Planning Report / Academic Achievement
4. Budget Report
5. Program Review Report(s)
6. Other Committee Reports
7. Bylaw or Policy Report or Review
8. New Business
9. Personnel Updates
10. List of items submitted but not on the agenda and their disposition (as needed)
11. Other Council Comments and Concerns

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

At the beginning of each regular council meeting, the council will approve an agenda for the meeting. Items on the preliminary agenda may be added, deleted, or modified at this time.

VIII. RECORDS

A. LIBRARY COPIES

At least one notebook of council records will be maintained by the council secretary and made available in the school library as part of normal library operations. This notebook will contain copies of the council bylaws, all council policies, council minutes for the current year, the current council budget, and the current School Improvement Plan.

B. OPEN RECORDS REQUESTS



The principal will be the official records custodian and will make the notebooks of council bylaws, policies, minutes, budgets, current CSIP, and other council records available in response to written requests. A fee set by the Board of Education may be charged to cover copying costs other than staff time to make the copies in accord with the provisions of the Open Records Law. Persons who want copies of documents in the council binder will give the principal a written request.

C. OFFICE COPIES

All council records will be maintained in the school office in accordance with the State Archives Records Retention Schedule (725 KAR 1:030). (See Attachment D)

IX. COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DUTIES

A. CHAIRPERSON

The principal will serve as the chairperson of the council. The chairperson will preside at all council meetings and carry out all other specific council duties as assigned by these bylaws.

B. VICE-CHAIRPERSON

1. The vice-chairperson will be chosen by consensus from within the council membership.
2. The duties of the vice-chair will be to:
 - a. Preside over council meetings in the absence of the Chair.
 - b. Arrange training for the council on an agreed upon date/time in the event that a new principal must be hired including.
 - Calling a special meeting for the training on the agreed upon date/time
 - Inviting the superintendent (or designee) to attend the training
 - Ensuring that all council members, the superintendent (or designee), and the trainer have a copy of the Principal Selection Policy.
 - c. Become the liaison to the superintendent (or designee) when he/she becomes the chair of the council in the event that a new principal must be hired. (See Attachment E).

C. RECORDER / SBDM Secretary

1. The chairperson of the council will appoint a recorder for the council. The recorder will not be a member of the council. The position will be paid an extra-duty stipend of \$500.00.
2. The duties of the recorder will be to:
 - a. Take minutes at each council meeting that include an accurate record of all motions made and all decisions or actions taken. Maintain and up-date all documents in the public notebook in the library.
 - b. Type, copy, and distribute the draft minutes, marked as such, to each member of the council and post a copy in the teacher's lounge and in a place readily accessible to all parents. This will be done within five school days after each meeting.
 - c. Make copies of the final approved minutes for the notebooks in the library and the office and send copies to all council members, the president of the parent-teacher organization, and the superintendent. This will be done within five school days following the meeting at which the minutes were approved.

X. COMMITTEES

A. USE OF COMMITTEES

Committees will be used to support and to accomplish tasks of the council.



B. COMMITTEES POLICY

The council will adopt a committee policy to facilitate the participation of interested persons. As required by SBDM law, the policy will include the number of committees, their jurisdiction, their composition, and the process for membership selection.

XI. DECISION-MAKING

A. QUORUM

A majority (more than half) of the members, including at least one parent member, will constitute a quorum. A quorum must be present for the council to take action.

B. VISION & MISSION

Student needs and the school's vision, as well as the overall mission of specific programs will guide decision-making. When possible, decisions will be based on applicable data. When making decisions, the council will give priority to improvement plan goals and strategies.

C. COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The council will make no decisions on issues that are not under their jurisdiction by law. The following issues are under the purview of the School-Based Decision Making Council:

1. School Improvement Planning
2. School Safety Plan
3. Ungraded Primary Program (Elementary)
4. Assessment Data Analysis, including results of Program Reviews
5. Achievement Gap Targets
6. Professional Development
7. Spending on textbooks, instructional materials, student support, and staff (including determination of the number of persons to be employed in each job classification)
8. Consultation before the principal selects people to be hired
9. Selection of a new principal
10. Adopting policies in the following areas: (See SBDM Policy Manual)
 - a. Alignment with State Standards
 - b. College-Level Courses (Secondary)
 - c. Committees
 - d. Consultation
 - e. Curriculum
 - f. Discipline, Classroom Management and School Safety
 - g. Emergency Plan
 - h. Enhancing Student Achievement
 - i. Extracurricular Programs
 - j. Instructional and Non-Instructional Staff Time Assignment
 - k. Instructional Practices
 - l. Program Appraisal
 - m. School Day and Week Schedule
 - n. School Space Use
 - o. Student Assignment
 - p. Technology Use
 - q. Writing
 - r. OTHER: Policies not required by law but considered best practice and/or recommended by the local district. Following are activities in which councils should not be involved:
 1. Run the school on a day-to-day basis



2. Break state/federal laws, risk lawsuits, or break contracts
3. Risk health or safety of students or staff
4. Spend money they don't have
5. Make decisions outside the areas of responsibility listed above

D. CONSENSUS

1. The council will operate by consensus decision-making using the following procedures:
 - a. Only decisions that have an immediate deadline or will have very limited impact on the school will be made without a committee recommendation.
 - b. All council members who choose to do so will be given a chance for input on issues requiring a consensus decision.
 - c. If council input and discussion reveal significant concerns or ambiguities related to an issue, the council's normal practice will be to give or return the issue to a committee for further work. Exceptions may be made for urgent timelines or pressing concerns.
2. After council input and discussion, any member may make a motion to accept a proposal. If the proposal being considered is in writing, the motion may be made verbally. If the proposal has not been presented in writing or the member making the motion wants to propose one or more amendments, he or she will write down the motion, read it to the council, and hand the written motion to the recorder for inclusion in the minutes.
3. The chair will then ask if there is further discussion.
4. When that discussion is complete, the chair will test for consensus by asking if there is consensus for approval of the motion. Any member who is not willing to support the motion is obligated to say so at this time. Members who support the motion will indicate by word or other sign that they believe there is now a consensus.
5. If no member states unwillingness to support, the chair will direct the recorder to record that consensus has been reached and the motion has passed.

E. CONSENSUS FAILURE

1. Council voting will be done only when the council must have a decision, consensus has failed, and one or more of the following conditions exist:
 - a. When the council will otherwise be unable to meet a legal deadline by which the council is required to have made a decision, or
 - b. When the council has failed to reach consensus at a second meeting for that purpose.
2. At the first meeting where an issue is discussed, if the chair tests for consensus but consensus is not reached, the council may postpone further consideration until the next meeting or continue to discuss the issue. After testing for consensus on a proposal three times in one meeting, the chair may direct that the proposal be taken up again at the next meeting unless one of the conditions for voting applies.
3. If the council takes up an issue at a second meeting and is still unable to reach consensus, the council will consider alternative steps, including but not limited to:
 - a. Asking a committee to bring the council a new proposal on the issue.
 - b. Doing nothing and dropping the issue.
 - c. Voting.

F. ADOPTION OF POLICIES



1. Policies are defined as written documents that establish rules, procedures, guidelines, standards, or principles to guide decision-making in various situations.
2. To be officially adopted, a policy will have a reading at two different council meetings.
3. Adopted policies are binding until the council amends them.

G. BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The council may amend these bylaws as needed. All motions to amend the bylaws of the council will be submitted in writing. No decision on a motion to amend the bylaws will be made until after the topic has been on the agenda for two meetings and has had two readings.

H. APPEALS OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

The District Board of Education has established a process of appeals of council decisions.



