
Bylaws of the School Advisory Council of Gullett Elementary School 2023-2024

Article I

Name of Organization

The name of this organization shall be *The School Advisory Council of Gullett Elementary School*.

Article II

Purpose and Function

Section 1:

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a resource for the school, its teachers, parents and principal. Its function is to develop and oversee the implementation of a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that will serve as a framework for school improvement.

Section 2:

The primary function of the SAC is to provide all of the stakeholders an opportunity to be active participants in the assessment of needs, development of priorities, and identification and use of resources based on an analysis of multiple sources of available school data.

Specific functions include, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Develop and review the implementation of the School Improvement Plan.
2. Enlist, promote, and support greater interaction between school and community.
3. Provide input in matters concerning disbursement of school improvement funds and other monies related to school improvement, and to ensure that such expenditures are consistent with the School Improvement Plan.
4. Consult with people or departments needed to support the School Improvement Plan.

Article III

Representation and Membership

In accordance with Florida Statute 1001.452, which outlines the establishment of SACs:

Section 1:

The membership shall be representative of the student body and community served by the school. The SAC shall have an appropriately balanced number of teachers, parents, support employees, students, business, and community members.

Section 2:

The majority (50% + 1) of the members of the SAC shall be **non-school district employees**.

Section 3:

The SAC membership shall make every effort possible to be *appropriately* balanced referring to the racial, ethnic and economic community served by the school.

Article IV

Membership Selection

Section 1:

The SAC membership shall be constituted as follows:

1. Parents, teachers, student and support employees will be elected by their respective groups through an election.
 - i. Teachers shall be elected by teachers;
 - ii. Education support employees shall be elected by education support employees;
 - iii. Students, when appropriate, shall be elected by students;
 - iv. Parent members shall be elected by parents in general, with all parents having an opportunity to participate in voting for any parent on the ballot.
2. There will be wide notice of SAC vacancies and election through methods that include the school marquee, school newsletter, PTO meetings, announcement at Open House, etc. The names of parents willing to serve on the SAC will be listed on a ballot which will be distributed to all parents who will vote on the nominees.
3. Business and community members will be appointed by the principal or school board to achieve an appropriate balance of membership.
4. Replacement members shall be elected by appropriate constituencies if a vacancy occurs during the school year.
5. The principal is automatically a member by legal mandate.

Section 2:

Elections shall be held in September of each year and the installation of new members shall follow immediately.

Section 3:

Each parent of Gullett Elementary School will be notified of SAC elections in accordance with Fla. Stat. §286.022, "public meetings and records; public inspection."

Article V

Tenure

Section 1:

The term of office shall be 2 years or staggered to provide continuity from year-to-year. If no nominations or volunteers are present after the 2-year term, the current officer may serve for additional terms or until another is elected.

Section 2:

SAC members, other than those designated to complete unexpired terms, shall be elected to 1-year terms. Members may be elected to multiple 1-year terms on a year-to-year basis to ensure continued membership in the Gullett SAC.

Section 3:

No member may miss more than two (2) unexcused consecutive SAC meetings. As required by Fla.

Stat. §1001.452(1)(d)4, in the event of two unexcused consecutive absences from a properly noticed SAC meeting, the person's membership will cease and the SAC Chairperson shall arrange for the replacement of the member by election as specified in Membership Selection, Article IV, Section 1. Such individuals will fill the remainder of the term to which they were elected.

Meetings

All SAC meetings shall be held in accordance with Florida Statute §286.11 – “Public meetings and records; public inspection”. At a minimum, the Sunshine Law requires reasonable public notice (seven days' notice is generally recommended); openness of SAC meetings to the general public, in a location accessible to the public; and taking minutes of the meetings, which must be made available for public inspection following the meeting. This public notice is in addition to the minimum three(3) day's advance written notice required by Fla. Stat. §1001.452(1)(d)2 to all SAC members regarding any matter scheduled to come before the SAC for a vote.

Section 1:

SAC meetings will be held once per month, determined by the SAC at the first meeting of the year. Meetings may be held in person or virtually through Zoom. Cancellations will be provided in the newsletter or through other appropriate means of communication to the parents and families.

Section 2:

SAC meetings shall be scheduled at the first meeting of the year. Meetings will take place from 5:15pm-6:15pm, unless otherwise advertised.

Section 3:

The SAC chairperson, on occasion, may call a special meeting, with reasonable public notice.

Section 4:

Subcommittees will meet as needed (See Article VII).

Officers

Section 1:

The officers of this Council shall be a chairperson, or co-chairperson, and a secretary. In the event of a vacancy in a Council office during an existing term, the vacancy will be filled by SAC member election.

Section 2:

The Council shall elect its own officers at the first regular meeting. Officers shall serve their term as outlined in Section 1 – Article V – titled Tenure.

Article VI

Duties of Officers

Section 1:

Chairperson – The chairperson (and co-chairperson) shall preside at all meetings of the Council and shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2:

Secretary – The secretary shall keep minutes (available to the public per Fla. Stat. §286.11) of the meetings and shall be responsible for such correspondence as is delegated to him/her by the chairperson. The secretary shall also document activities, decisions, and attendance of the Council and its committees for accountability and send a copy to the School Improvement and Accountability Office at the district, which will maintain a record of minutes of all SAC meetings, as required by Fla. Stat. §1001.452(1)(d)5.

Duties of Members

Section 3:

Principal/Assistant Principal - The administration shall provide information regarding the school education plan, including the school budget. The role of the principal includes the development, through positive actions, of feelings of trust and mutual regard among the SAC, the community and the staff. The principal arranges for presentations of interest to the SAC and encourages leadership from within the Council.

Section 4:

Faculty and School Staff Representatives – The members of the school staff shall represent the views and interests of the total school staff. They will act as resources for the SAC by making available specialized information about educational programs, innovative ideas, and available resources. School staff representatives serve as a communication link between the SAC and the school staff, informing others of actions and activities of the Council.

Section 5:

Parents, Business, and Community Representatives - The parent, business, and community members of the SAC shall represent the view of the parents, citizens, and business and community organizations of the school community. They shall act as resource persons for the SAC in the areas of community-related issues that affect the school and its students. They shall serve as a communications link between the SAC, business, community and parent groups.

Section 6:

Student Representatives - The student representatives (high school only) of the SAC shall serve as voting representatives of all students. They relay suggestions and recommendations from members of the student body and the Student Council to the SAC for consideration. (See Fla. Stat. §1001.452(1)(a)).

Article VII

Voting Body

The SAC is the formal council that is responsible for voting upon and implementing the decisions for the organization. The SAC will be comprised of an elected membership and will require a quorum if any formal action is to be taken, as required by Fla. Stat. §1001.452(1)(d)1. A quorum is a majority (50% + 1) of the SAC membership. As required by Fla. Stat. §1001.452(1)(d)2, all SAC members will receive at least three (3) days ' notice in writing of any matter that is scheduled to come before the SAC for a vote.

Committees

Committees are formed to research and make recommendations regarding specific areas that affect the organization. Committees may be constituted in several configurations.

Article VIII

Rules of Order

Section 1:

SAC decisions shall be reached by majority vote.

Section 2:

The SAC need not operate under Parliamentary Procedures such as Roberts' Rules of Order. However, professional discussions and decision making will be paramount.

Addition Financial Control

Section 1:

After the SAC has voted to approve an expenditure of school improvement funds by an entity or person, that person/entity has a period of time not to exceed 3 months to use those funds and seek payments from the SAC. If the SAC (or school bookkeeper) has not been notified that the funds were expended by that deadline, following a reminder notice to the requestor, the funds will be considered as having reverted back to the general SAC funds as available for reallocation, absent extenuating circumstances as determined by vote of the SAC.

Article IX

Amendments

Section 1:

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the SAC committee by a two-thirds majority (recommended by Robert's rules of Order) of the members present and voting. Written notice to the members of the proposed amendment shall be at least three (3) days prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon. A quorum is required at any meeting for action to be taken. All SAC meetings shall be held in accordance with Fla. Stat. §286.11 – "Public meetings and records, public inspection".

Section 2:

The SAC shall review annually, and when appropriate, recommend revision of the SAC Bylaws. The adoption of revised bylaws shall follow the procedure for amendments.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: §1001.41(2), 1001.42(17) Fla. Stat.
LAWS IMPLEMENTED: §24.121(5)(c); 1000.03(5); 1008.345(6)
1008.36(4); 1008.385(1); 1001.42(17)(b); 1001.452, Fla. Stat.