

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 943

4  
5 By: Senator Glover  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO CREATE A PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR  
10 EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13  
14 AN ACT TO CREATE A PARENT ADVISORY  
15 COUNCIL FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE  
16 STATE.  
17  
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 13, is amended to add the  
22 following new subchapter:

23 6-13-1601. Parent advisory council – Establishment.

24 Each public school shall establish a parent advisory council based on  
25 the following principles:

26 (1) A student's education is a responsibility shared by the school and  
27 family during the entire time that he or she spends in school;

28 (2) Schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners in order  
29 to support the goal of the schools to educate all students effectively;

30 (3) Parents are integral components of a school's ability to provide  
31 for the educational success of students, although parents and students are  
32 diverse in culture, language, and needs;

33 (4) The engagement of parents is essential to improve student  
34 achievement; and

35 (5) Schools should foster a safe and secure environment that supports  
36 active parental involvement.



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

6-13-1602. Parent advisory council – Membership.

(a)(1) The parent advisory council shall consist of the school principal and no fewer than six (6) parents or legal guardians, and be representative of the grade levels, race, gender, and socioeconomic status of the school’s population.

(2) No parent or legal guardian representative on the parent advisory council may be an employee of that school.

(b) Each school shall establish policies regarding individual member’s length of service on the council and filling vacancies.

(c) Membership on the council shall be by nomination from the school principal and that school’s organized parent group.

(d) Nominations are subject to confirmation by the school district board of directors.

6-17-1603. Parent advisory council – Meetings.

The parent advisory council shall meet at least quarterly during the school year.

6-13-1604. Parent advisory council – Roles and responsibilities.

(a) The parent advisory council shall recognize the principal as the chief academic and operational officer of the school.

(b) The parent advisory council shall:

(1) Annually review the school improvement plan including the disaggregation of achievement data from each tested grade or course in the school as well as the performance of the various student subgroups;

(2) Annually review the school’s report card including the narrative of yearly progress based on current state and federal requirements;

(3) Make recommendations encouraging regular, two-way meaningful communication with parents and legal guardians, such as publishing the school’s process for resolving parental concerns, including whom to approach first and how to develop solutions;

(4) Make recommendations regarding the school’s parental involvement program, including activities such as sponsoring seminars to inform parents and legal guardians of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and

1 preparation for post-secondary opportunities, as well as other activities to  
2 promote parent participation;

3 (5) Provide input into the development of parental involvement  
4 activities as required in the school improvement plan;

5 (6)(A) Make recommendations regarding appropriate professional  
6 development activities to be included as part of the required professional  
7 development for teachers and administrators.

8 (B) The professional activities shall enhance the  
9 understanding of effective parent involvement; and

10 (7) Make recommendations regarding the school’s collaboration  
11 with community organizations for the purpose of enhancing student  
12 achievement.

13  
14 6-13-1605. Parent advisory council – School roles and  
15 responsibilities.

16 (a)(1) With input from the parent advisory council, each school shall  
17 develop a written parent involvement policy to encourage parents and legal  
18 guardians to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect their  
19 children and families.

20 (2) The policy shall be distributed to all parents and guardians  
21 of students in that school.

22 (b)(1) Each school shall annually disseminate through multi-media an  
23 explanation of the appropriate state and federal accreditation standards,  
24 curriculum standards, and assessment and accountability requirements.

25 (2) The school shall also report how the school complies with  
26 established standards and requirements.

27  
28 6-13-1606. Parent advisory council – Monitoring.

29 The organization of the parent advisory council and its required  
30 activities shall be monitored by the Department of Education during the  
31 official scheduled compliance review of the school.

32  
33  
34  
35  
36