

School Site Council Information





The Legislation



KSA 72-6439 (1992) – KS
Legislature – this is the statute
that instituted the Quality
Performance Accreditation
(QPA) system



Provision:

All schools must establish site
councils as part of the QPA
process



What is QPA?

- Quality – based on the following criteria:
 - School improvement plan/results-based staff development plan in place
 - External technical assistance team
 - Highly qualified staff
 - Programs/services to support student learning and growth
 - Programs that support equal access to learning and growth
 - Curricula that allow students to meet the regent's qualified admissions requirements (high schools)



Performance

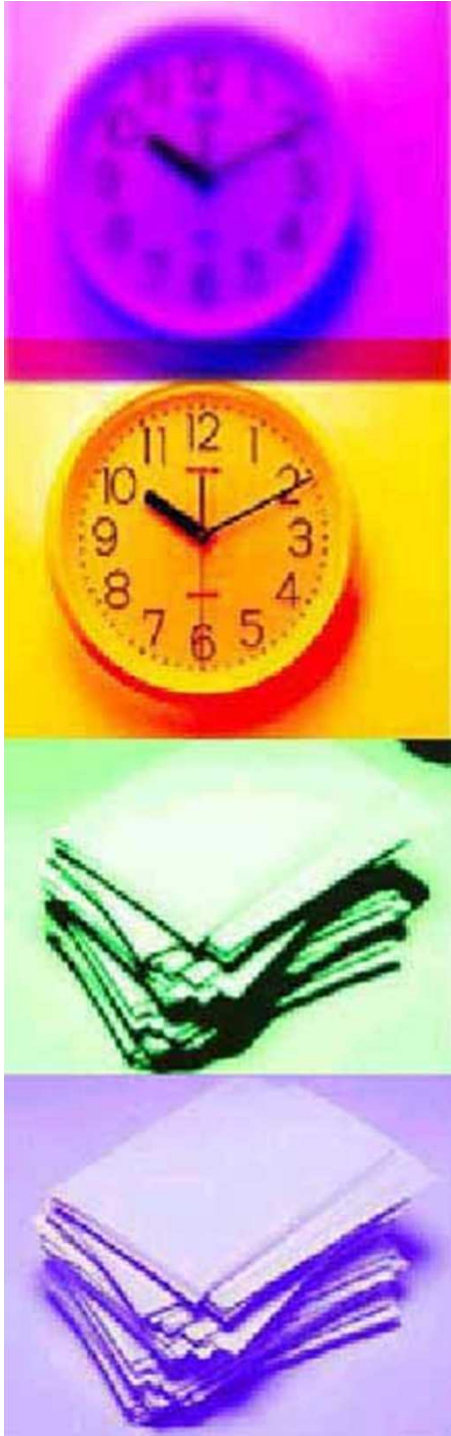
- Performance is based on the following criteria:
 - Percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standard in reading, mathematics, writing, science, and social studies (based on state assessments)
 - Having 95% or more of all students participate in state assessments and 95% or more of each subgroup participate in state assessments
 - Having an attendance rate equal to 90% (elementary/jr. high)
 - Having a high school graduation rate that equals or exceeds 75% (senior high)





Accreditation

- Based on how a school meets the Quality and Performance Criteria, it will be classified as one of the following:
 - Accredited – meets minimum performance and quality standards
 - Accredited on Improvement – for 2 consecutive years school does not meet performance criteria for on or more assessed student groups or fails to meet quality criteria
 - Conditionally Accredited – for 3 consecutive years does not meet the above in the ALL student group
 - Not Accredited – for 5 consecutive years does not meet the above in the ALL student group



Who is on Site Council?

- The legislation states the site council will be composed of:
 - The principal, teachers and other school personnel, parents, business representatives, and other representatives of community groups

Purpose of Site Councils

- The purpose of the school Site Council is to advise the school on such matters as
 - Student learning
 - Education programs
 - School improvement planning
 - Accreditation issues
- Site Council is also to play an advocacy role for the school regarding these issues





Specifically -

- The purpose is to:
 - Provide advice and counsel to the school in developing, implementing, and evaluating school performance goals and objectives, and
 - Provide ongoing support for the students and staff of the school

Responsibilities

- Two major responsibilities:
 1. Provide assistance and counsel in evaluating state, school district, and school site performance goals and objectives, and
 2. Provide advice regarding the methods that should be employed at the school site to meet these goals and objectives





A Critical Point to Remember

- • The work of the site council is *advisory* only; it makes *recommendations*, not decisions



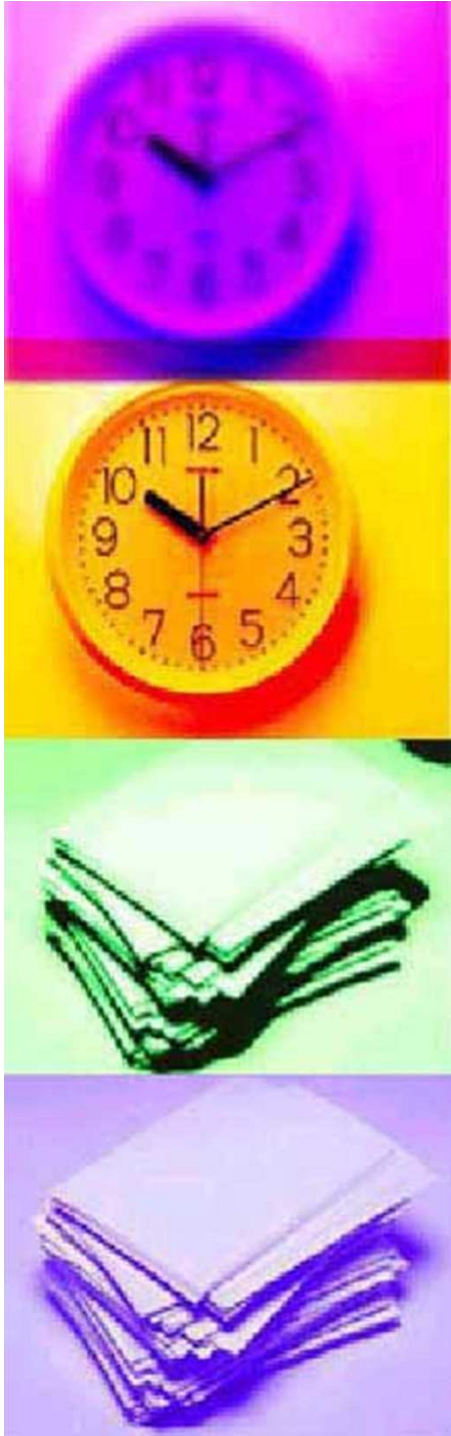
Membership

- The statute is purposely broad about membership – but the document contains the following suggestions:
 - 6 to 12 members
 - Includes principal, teachers, other school personnel, parents of students attending the school, the business community, and representatives of other community groups
 - Membership on the site council should be representative of the demographics of the school

Membership

- When and where possible, community membership should be larger than school staff membership
 - Special attention should be given to underrepresented groups
- Local board policies delineate site council member selection, rotation, terms of service, eligibility for service, and selection of leadership
 - USD497 Board Policy regarding Site Councils restates the state statute language and does not impose limitations on membership or length of service





Meetings

- Site Councils meet at regularly scheduled times agreed upon by the members
 - Meeting schedules shall be established to suit the convenience of its members (USD497 Board of Education Policy)

Responsibilities of Members

- The chair and the principal (or her/his designee) establish agendas, conduct meetings, and communicate site council advisement
 - Agendas would include discussions of student learning, student safety, educational programs, school improvement planning, and accreditation issues
 - Focus is always on student performance and related issues (for example, a safe and orderly environment as it contributes positively to student learning)

