



# Local School Improvement Councils



## ***What is a Local School Improvement Council (LSIC)?***

LSICs are designed to represent the voice of the community's stakeholders. The councils are comprised of the principal, teachers, service personnel, parents, students, community members, and business representatives. LSICs are directly involved with the operation of the local school.



## ***What do LSICs do?***

LSICs serve an integral role in school governance through shared decision making. The LSIC is responsible for addressing complex issues and fostering changes that may drastically alter the curriculum, instruction, or administration of the school.

The council shall critically examine their school's needs and help develop the school's strategic plan. The LSIC efforts are supported by the legislation which provides a waiver process by which councils may propose to change local and/or state policies.

## ***Do you have to be a member to attend the meetings?***

Nothing prohibits expanding the membership of LSICs to include non-voting members or requesting other stakeholders to participate in meetings of the LSIC.

## ***Why are LSICs important?***

LSICs provide unique perspectives and assistance to schools in reaching their goals. LSICs are designed to draw on the stakeholders' expertise and insight to define the strengths and weaknesses of a school and to develop solutions to improve education at the school.

## ***What meetings are required for LSICs?***

- The school principal shall arrange for the election of members before September 15.
- No later than October 1, the principal will convene an Organizational Meeting. A chair and two members to assist the chair in setting agendas and recording minutes will be elected. The principal will train all members on the role and governance of LSICs.
- LSICs must conduct at least one Stakeholder Meeting to discuss issues regarding the school's academic performance.
- County Boards of Education must meet at least annually with the LSIC of each school deemed to be low performing under the West Virginia Accountability System (WVAS).
- All regular meetings must be every nine weeks or equivalent grading period, at the call of the chair, or by petition of three-fourths of its members.



## ***How can you join an LSIC?***

Parents, teachers, service personnel, students, and community members interested in becoming a member of their Local School Improvement Council should contact their school's principal.

The principal will arrange for member elections to be held prior to September 15. You can also find information on the West Virginia Department of Education website at <https://wvde.us/accountability/local-school-improvement-council-lsic/>.

## ***About West Virginia Local School Improvement Councils***

The West Virginia legislature mandated the public schools establish councils to collaborate with administrators and faculty to promote innovations and improvements in the teaching and learning environment in the schools.



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

**For additional information, contact:**

*Tammy Varney, Coordinator*

*Office of Accountability*

*West Virginia Department of Education*

*(304) 558-3199 | [tmvarney@k12.wv.us](mailto:tmvarney@k12.wv.us)*