



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

AN INTRODUCTION TO SCHOOL SITE COUNCILS

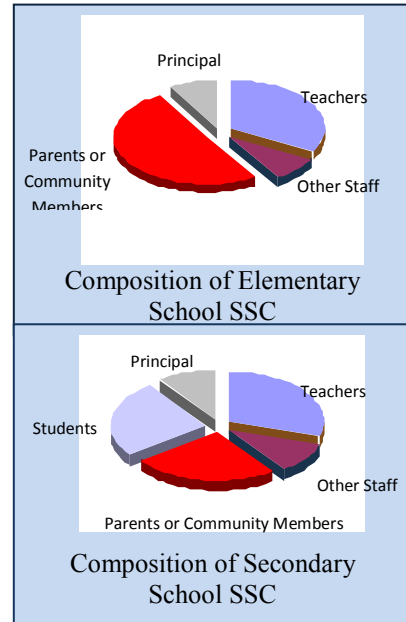


every student. every classroom. every day.

This document answers some key questions about School Site Councils (SSC). SSC's make important decisions at the school site about programs and spending and are made up of parents and families as well as school personnel.

What is a School Site Council (SSC)?ⁱ

- The SSC decides upon academic instructional programs and all related categorical resource expenditures for a school.
- A SSC is a school-community representative body made up of:
 - Principal
 - Teachers
 - Other School Personnel
 - Parents or Community Members
 - Students (at the Secondary Level)
- All schools that receive federal or state categorical funding are required to have a SSC to decide how to spend categorical funds.



What does a SSC do?ⁱⁱ

1. Develops and approves the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)
 - Sets and/or reviews school goals and selects specific improvements
 - Establishes budgets based upon the SPSA
 - Recommends and submits site plan to Board of Education (State Administrator) for approval
2. Reviews and modifies the SPSA
 - Monitors and evaluates implementation of SPSA and resulting student achievement
 - Assesses effectiveness of planned strategies, activities and remedies
 - Participates in local, state, and federal reviews of the school's program for compliance and quality;
3. Collaborates with other Advisory Groups (English Learner Advisory Committee -- ELAC, Gifted and Talented Education -- GATE, School Advisory Committee -- SAC)
 - Obtains recommendations from school site advisory, standing, and special committees regarding the focus of the school's SPSA
 - Completes English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) tasks (if the SSC has ELAC authority).
4. Encourages parent, family and community involvement
 - Encourages broad representation of parents, community members, teachers and students, if appropriate
 - Includes all socioeconomic, ethnic, and programmatic groups represented in the school- community.
 - Develops and oversees Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Home - School Compact



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How do I get involved?

- You must be chosen by your peers.
 - If you're a parent, guardian or community member, you will need to be elected by the parents and guardians of the students.
 - Elections may use ballots or voice vote. election procedures should be outlined in the bylaws of the SSC
- SSC seats are not reserved for any group or individual
- Nondiscrimination policies must be observed (membership is not restricted to any group)

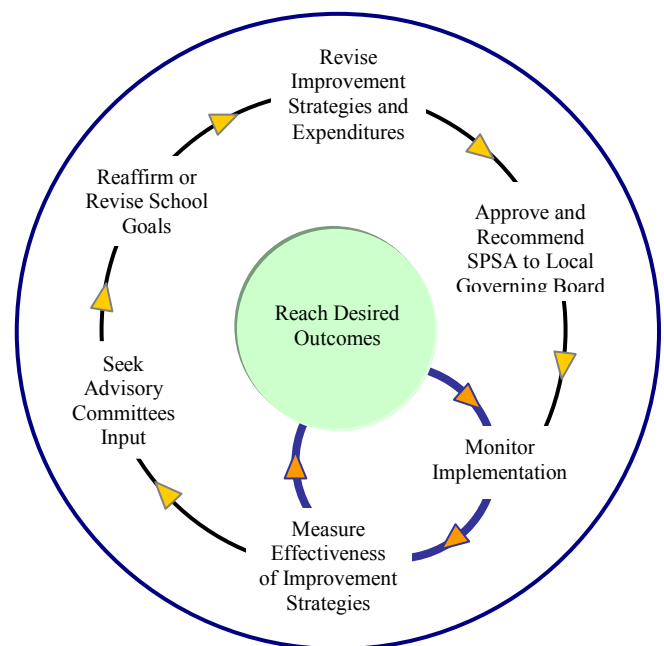
What is a Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)?ⁱⁱⁱ

The main task of the SSC is to develop a Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the school every year. The SPSA covers how the school's discretionary and categorical funding will be spent to achieve the following goals:

- **Involvement:** That parents, staff, students, and community members participate in developing, implementing, and evaluating core and categorical programs.
- **Governance and Administration:** That policies, plans, and administration of categorical programs meet statutory requirements.
- **Funding:** That allocation and use of funds meet statutory requirements for allowable expenditures.
- **Standards, Assessment, and Accountability:** That categorical programs meet state standards, are based on the assessed needs of program participants, and achieve the intended outcomes of the categorical program.
- **Staffing and Professional Development:** That staff members are recruited, trained, assigned, and assisted to ensure the effectiveness of the program.
- **Opportunity and Equal Educational Access:** That participants have equitable access to all programs provided by the local educational agency, as required by law.
- **Teaching and Learning.** That participants receive core and categorical program services that meet their assessed needs.

Steps for Developing the SPSA^{iv}

1. Measure effectiveness of improvement strategies at the school
2. Seek input from school advisory committees
3. Reaffirm or revise school goals
4. Revise improvement strategies and expenditures
5. Recommend the approved SPSA to the board of education.
6. Monitor implementation of the SPSA



Graphic from the Guide and Template for the Single Plan for Student Achievement: A Handbook for School Site Councils, California Department of Education.



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CATEGORICAL FUNDS^v

SSC's decide how to spend categorical funds at the school site. Categorical funds are federal and state monies that are available for specific purposes. Below is description of these funds.

State Funds

Economic Impact Aid/State Compensatory Education (EIA/SCE)

- **Purpose:** To help educationally disadvantaged students succeed in the regular program.
- **EIA/SCE** is a program supporting additional educational services for students achieving below grade level. This fund should help these students in the Core Program.

Economic Impact Aid/English Learner Program (EIA/LEP)

- **Purpose:** To develop fluency in English and academic proficiency of English Learners.
- **EIA/LEP** funds should help to develop fluency in English and academic proficiency of English Learners.

School/Library Improvement Block Grant (SLIBG)

- **Purpose:** To improve school response to educational, personal and career needs of all students.
- **SLIBG** is a program for K-12 students to improve instruction, services, school environment and organization at school according to plans developed by School Site Councils.

Targeted Instructional Improvement Grant (TIIG)

- **Purpose:** A program for K-12 to improve the academic achievement of the lowest performing students. **TIIG** is a program providing funding to previous participants in court ordered desegregation and voluntary integration programs to support court-orders still in force and to provide instructional improvement for low achieving pupils.

Federal Funds

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

Title I: A K-12 program to provide Supplemental Educational Support to low-achieving children in high-poverty schools, English Learners, Migrant Children, children with disabilities, neglected or delinquent children, and young children in need of reading assistance. Provides professional development supportive of student achievement and promote parent education and involvement.

- **Title I: School-wide Program**
- **Purpose:** Upgrade the entire educational program of the school.
- **Title I: Targeted Assistance Program**
- **Purpose:** Help students achieving below grade level with proficiency.

Allowable Expenditures

Expenditures are allowable if they:

- ✓ Provide an effective means of achieving the purposes of the program funding source
- ✓ Are a reasonable use of limited resources
- ✓ Are necessary to achieve the goals of the plan
- ✓ Provide Supplementary services for eligible students. Funds “Supplement (add to), and not Supplant (replace)” state and local expenditures



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RESOURCE LIST

- School Site Council Implementation of the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Prepared by Clarence A. Boyd, Jr. Chair, DAC 2007 - 2008
- Guide and Template for the Single Plan for Student Achievement: A Handbook for School Site Councils, California Department of Education. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/le/singleplan.asp>
- California Department of Education Single Plan for Student Achievement Mailing List <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/le/subscribe.asp>
- Presentation: Schoolsite Councils. Prepared by Family and Community Office

ⁱ School Site Council Implementation of the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Prepared by Clarence A. Boyd, Jr. Chair, DAC 2007 - 2008

ⁱⁱ School Site Council Implementation of the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Prepared by Clarence A. Boyd, Jr. Chair, DAC 2007 - 2008

ⁱⁱⁱ Guide and Template for the Single Plan for Student Achievement: A Handbook for School Site Councils, California Department of Education. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/le/singleplan.asp>

^{iv} Guide and Template for the Single Plan for Student Achievement: A Handbook for School Site Councils, California Department of Education. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/le/singleplan.asp>

^v School Site Council Implementation of the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Prepared by Clarence A. Boyd, Jr. Chair, DAC 2007 - 2008