

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL REVISIONS

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Rich Cunningham

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends certain provisions related to school community councils.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ changes the deadline for an election for the parent or guardian members of a school community council ~~H→ [to September 20]~~ ←H ;
- ▶ changes the deadline for the date by which a principal must post certain information related to school community councils to October 20;
- ▶ requires school districts to record the amount of School LAND Trust Program funds distributed to each school on the School LAND Trust Program website by October 1;
- ▶ requires the president or chair of a local school board or charter school governing board to ensure that the members of their respective boards are provided with annual training on the School LAND Trust Program; and
- ▶ requires the School Children's Trust Section to provide training on the School LAND Trust Program and school community councils to:
 - local school boards and charter school governing boards;
 - school districts and charter schools; and
 - school community councils.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:



90 council by a majority vote of a quorum of the school community council provided that:

91 (i) the membership includes two or more parent or guardian members than the number
92 of school employee members; and

93 (ii) there are at least two school employee members on the school community council.

94 (d) (i) The number of parent or guardian members of a school community council who
95 are not educators employed by the school district shall exceed the number of parent or guardian
96 members who are educators employed by the school district.

97 (ii) If, after an election, the number of parent or guardian members who are not
98 educators employed by the school district does not exceed the number of parent or guardian
99 members who are educators employed by the school district, the parent or guardian members of
100 the school community council shall appoint one or more parent or guardian members to the
101 school community council so that the number of parent or guardian members who are not
102 educators employed by the school district exceeds the number of parent or guardian members
103 who are educators employed by the school district.

104 (5) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(f), a school employee member, other than
105 the principal, shall be elected by secret ballot by a majority vote of the school employees and
106 serve a two-year term. The principal shall serve as an ex officio member with full voting
107 privileges.

108 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(f), a parent or guardian member shall be
109 elected by secret ballot at an election held at the school by a majority vote of those voting at the
110 election and serve a two-year term.

111 (ii) Only parents or guardians of students attending the school may vote at the election
112 under Subsection (5)(b)(i).

113 (iii) Any parent or guardian of a student who meets the qualifications of this section
114 may file or declare the parent's or guardian's candidacy for election to a school community
115 council.

116 (iv) (A) Subject to Subsections (5)(b)(iv)(B) and (5)(b)(iv)(C), a timeline for the
117 election of parent or guardian members of a school community council shall be established by
118 a local school board for the schools within the school district.

119 (B) An election for the parent or guardian members of a school community council
120 shall be held near the beginning of the school year ~~and completed before [October 15]~~

121 ~~H~~→ [September 20] ←~~H~~ or held in the spring and completed before the last week of school.

122 (C) Each school shall establish a time period for the election of parent or guardian
123 members of a school community council under Subsection (5)(b)(iv)(B) that is consistent for at
124 least a four-year period.

125 (c) (i) The principal of the school, or the principal's designee, shall provide notice of
126 the available community council positions to school employees, parents, and guardians at least
127 10 days before the date that voting commences for the elections held under Subsections (5)(a)
128 and (5)(b).

129 (ii) The notice shall include:

130 (A) the dates and times of the elections;

131 (B) a list of council positions that are up for election; and

132 (C) instructions for becoming a candidate for a community council position.

133 (iii) The principal of the school, or the principal's designee, shall oversee the elections
134 held under Subsections (5)(a) and (5)(b).

135 (iv) Ballots cast in an election held under Subsection (5)(b) shall be deposited in a
136 secure ballot box.

137 (d) Results of the elections held under Subsections (5)(a) and (5)(b) shall be made
138 available to the public upon request.

139 (e) (i) If a parent or guardian position on a school community council remains unfilled
140 after an election is held, the other parent or guardian members of the council shall appoint a
141 parent or guardian who meets the qualifications of this section to fill the position.

142 (ii) If a school employee position on a school community council remains unfilled after
143 an election is held, the other school employee members of the council shall appoint a school
144 employee to fill the position.

145 (iii) A member appointed to a school community council under Subsection (5)(e)(i) or
146 (ii) shall serve a two-year term.

147 (f) (i) If the number of candidates who file for a parent or guardian position or school
148 employee position on a school community council is less than or equal to the number of open
149 positions, an election is not required.

150 (ii) If an election is not held pursuant to Subsection (5)(f)(i) and a parent or guardian
151 position remains unfilled, the other parent or guardian members of the council shall appoint a