Building Your P-16

Implementing Effective P16 Community Engagement Councils

January 2020

Shakinna Patterson, Ed.S. 
Bureau Director II
Office of School Improvement

BoNita Harris, Ph.D.
Office Director II
Office of School Improvement
VISION
To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION
To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community
MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas

2. Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career

3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

5. Every Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

6. Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher
Learning Targets

• To provide guidance for P16 implementation
• To review **rules and regulations** governing P16 Councils
• To review the process for developing a P16 Council
• To provide context on **roles and responsibilities** of the school district/school administration and P16 Council
P16 Overview

• P-16 stands for Pre-Kindergarten through higher education (or year 16 of education)

• P-16 Councils are **INDEPENDENT** groups made up of community members, leaders, and educators

• P-16 Councils **examine** policies and **suggests** actions to the school district or school administration

• P-16 Councils are created based on governance by **state law** and **MS Public School Accountability Standards**
Getting Started

With a partner, discuss where your school/district is in the process of implementing a P16 Community Engagement Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Development</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Emerging</th>
<th>Fully Implemented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

What does this stage look like for you?
P16 Community Engagement Council Implementation

• A school district that has been designated as Failing (F) as defined by the State Board of Education shall establish a community-based pre-kindergarten through higher education (P16) Council. \{MS Code § 37-7-337\} and \{MS Code § 37-18-5(4)\}

• A district and/or school designated as a D or F shall establish a community-based pre-kindergarten through higher education (P16) Council.

➢ MS Public School Accountability Standards (Process Standard 12, 12.1 and 12.2)
P16 Council- What works best for me?

- School
- District
P16 – What’s the Mission
Guidelines for P-16 Community Engagement Councils

Mission

School Districts and schools have the duty and responsibility to build quality first-rate schools accessible to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, class, gender, disability or status. This requires meaningful participation of parents, students and other parts of the community in the formation and implementation of policy at the school district and school levels.

Community Engagement Councils, also known as P-16 Councils, are an essential opportunity to build this process. The Community Engagement Councils are intended to be community-based and independent. The Councils are charged with the duty and responsibility to build strong, healthy communities. In order to build strong, healthy communities it is necessary, among other things, to create a quality public education delivered to students in healthy schools which are accessible to all children, regardless of race, class, status, gender or disability. Since these goals cannot be achieved within a year or two the Councils will need to develop a “comprehensive plan” that attempts to answer these two questions:

a. “What will a strong, healthy community, rooted in a quality public education system, need to look like 10, 15 or 20 years from now?”

b. “What do we have to do this year, next year and the years that follow in order to build this process in the right direction?”
# P16 Development Process – Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage I: P16 Initiators’ Meeting</th>
<th>Stage 2: P16 Selection Meeting</th>
<th>Stage 3: P16 Formation Meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District and Community Representatives Meet</td>
<td>Community Members from all P16 categories meet together</td>
<td>Category representatives meet as newly independent P16 council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P16 Mission Statement Developed</td>
<td>Community is briefed on P16 purpose and rules</td>
<td>P16 members select officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement developed on number of representatives from each category</td>
<td>Community members split into six (6) categories</td>
<td>P16 Council selects date of next P16 meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Meeting Date, Time and Location is Determined and Publicized</td>
<td>Members in each category select their representatives for the P16 Council</td>
<td>P16 members seek introduction at next school board meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stage 1: Initiators’ Meeting

- The Initiators’ Meeting is when a community and school district (or school) officially come together to establish the groundwork for a P-16 Council.

- Decisions that should be made during the Initiators’ Meeting include:
  
  P-16 Council Mission Statement

  The initial number of persons to sit on the P-16 Council and the equitable distribution of the membership among the categories

  Public meeting date, time, and location for the stage 2 meeting

  Method for publicizing the stage 2 meeting
Initiators’ Planning Meeting: Participants

- Examples of school personnel (school board member, superintendent, principal(s), parent liaison, etc.)

- Community members (Recommendation: people representing a variety of backgrounds)
Sample Agenda for Initiators’ Meeting

Welcome / Introduction of Purpose

Introduction of Initiators’ Group Members

Purpose (Why Each Is a Part of the Group)

Development of P-16 Mission Statement

P-16 Council Membership Requirements

Determination of the Number of persons to Serve on the P-16 Council

Establishment of a Date/Time/Location for a Public Meeting and Public Notification
Developing a Mission Statement

YOUR TURN
1. Local community-based organizations working on public education issues within the local school district;

2. Local public school district Parent Teacher Associations or Organizations;

3. Local public school-based student councils and local public school student government associations;

4. Community leaders, public officials and members of the business community, all within the local school district;
5. Community members at large interested in public education issues who may or may not be part of the other four (4) categories. In a school district wide Council there should be one at large member to represent each school board election district or ward; and

6. A. **For School District-based Councils**: members of the School District, which should be selected from the School District Board of Trustees, the School District Administration, the School District Faculty, and School District staff, including bus drivers and cafeteria workers.

   B. **For Individual School-based Councils**: members of the Individual School, which should be selected from the School Administration, the School Faculty, and School staff, including bus drivers and cafeteria workers.
Persons who are employed by the local school district at the time of these proceedings are expressly excluded from the definition of membership in each of the first five (5) constituent categories, 1-5, as set forth above, but are included in category 6.
How many members should serve on the P16 Council?

The MDE Guidelines provide the following guidance on council size:

The number of Council members should be based on the size of the school district or the size of the individual school.

The minimum number for the smallest districts or schools should be 12 people.

The minimum number for the largest districts or schools should be 24 people.
Stage 2: Selection of the P16 Council Members

- Divide participants into groups based on the membership categories. This may include:
  - PTO
  - Local community-based organizations
  - Public officials

- Make a selection to determine the number of members as previously determined by initiators

- Once all members have been selected, the role of the initiators ends and the new members take responsibility for the conduct of the P-16 Council
Stage 3: Formation of the P16 Council

• The Council becomes independent of the local school district or school
Stage 3: Formation of the P16 Council

- What does independence mean?
- What is the role of the school/district?
- What is the role of the P16 Council?
## What is the role of the P16 and School/District?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P16 (What it is - Roles and Responsibilities)</th>
<th>P16 (What it is Not)</th>
<th>School/District (Roles/Responsibilities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Provide ideas, partnerships, and information that can help the schools succeed.</td>
<td>☐ Not another school board and does not have any mandating or enforcement authority</td>
<td>☐ Work with the P16 to provide data and information related to key P16 policy areas (district policies, achievement data, student discipline, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Suggest policy and actions to the school district or school administration</td>
<td>☐ Not supposed to conduct direct programs or projects</td>
<td>☐ Work in partnership with the P16 to develop solutions to the most pressing needs of the district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Examine policy and to advocate for the enforcement of policies that are good for children</td>
<td>☐ Not a place for politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions to Ponder

Is what I’m doing, or about to do, going to improve student achievement?

How does this decision improve the quality of instruction and outcomes for ALL students?
P-16 Resources

- Pilot: Guidelines for P-16 Community Engagement Council
- Building Your P-16 Community Engagement Council
- How to Implement P-16 Community Engagement Council: Answering Frequently Asked Questions
- P-16 in Action: Getting Started: Implementing Effective P-16 Community Engagement Councils
- Sustaining Effective P-16 Community Engagement Councils
Reflection Points – Next Steps

• Determine whether or not your school and/or district is required to implement a P16 Council

• Decide what type of P16 Council will be implemented (District or School)

• Review: *How to Implement P16 Community Engagement Council: Answering Frequently Ask Questions* (OSI Website)

• Meet with your SLT/DLT to review the guidance document and develop action steps to move forward
Shakinna Patterson, Ed.S.
Director of School Improvement Programs
Office of School Improvement
spatterson@mdek12.org

BoNita Harris, Ph.D.
Director of Monitoring and Support
Office of School Improvement
bonitaharris@mdek12.org