A Village Meeting: Local School Council Basics
Objectives

★ To understand the value of Local School Councils (LSCs) as agents of school improvement.
★ To gain basic knowledge of LSC powers, legal roles and responsibilities.
★ To become familiar with how to run effective LSC campaign & elections.
★ Leave parents and communities empowered to answer the LSC Call to Action!
Overview

- Meeting Objectives
- Group Introductions
- Community Agreements
- A Historical Look: 30 years of Local School Councils
- The Basics: Local School Councils
- LSC Elections: How to Prepare & Win!
- Feedback & Closing
Name

Englewood CPS Parent | Community | Staff

Have you ever served on an LSC? How long?
Community Agreements

One person...One mic

Acknowledge your privilege and power

Make no assumptions, other than best intentions

Good vibes

“E.L.M.O”
A Historical Look - 30 years of Local School Councils
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 1979 | CPS GOES BANKRUPT  
Through mismanagement, CPS was in full-blown crisis mode—locked out of credit markets and unable to borrow $400 million to pay teachers and other expenses. |
| 1980 | FEDERAL CONSENT DECREED  
Following years of protest and boycotts, the Chicago Board of Education and the U.S. Justice Department sign a school desegregation consent decree. |
| 1986 | MAYOR HAROLD WASHINGTON'S EDUCATION SUMMIT  
Mayor Washington created an education summit, tapping 35 school, civic, business and university leaders to draft contracts outlining actions to improve the education and employment of young Chicagoans. |
A Historical Look: Education Summit for Change

ANTECEDENTS OF CHANGE

After a 19-day teacher’s union strike; Washington adds parents to his education summit to cultivate ideas on transforming the Chicago school system.

BIRTH OF COUNCILS

The summit participants recommend a host of changes including the creation of local school councils. The reform bill passed the Illinois legislature in November 1988.
In 1988, the Illinois State General Assembly passed PA85-1418 to reform the Chicago Public Schools. Each school has a Local School Council comprised of the principal, six parents of students currently attending the school, two certified teachers, two community residents and one student representative (high schools only) elected by the student body. The council members were elected for the first time on October 12, 1989. The Local School Council elections occur in even-numbered years.
The first Local School Council Members are sworn in at the University of Illinois - Chicago Pavilion.

1989
FIRST ELECTIONS

The first local school council elections are held. According to data from the Chicago Public Schools, 311,946 people—including community members, parents, staff, and students—vote in the elections, and 17,096 candidates run for seats on the councils.
A Historical Look: LSCs Over The Years

ENGAGING VOTERS
With a few exceptions, voter turnout for Chicago’s local school council elections has been on a downward trajectory since the first elections were held in 1989.

LSC Voter & Candidate Engagement, 1989 - 2014

Snapshot of LSC Vacancies, 2018
### Snapshots of LSCs Across The Community

#### BASS
**Elementary School**
1140 W 66TH ST Chicago, IL 60621 ➔
1(773)535-3275

**Parent Candidates: 2 of 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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#### BOND
**Elementary School**
7050 S MAY ST Chicago, IL 60621 ➔
1(773)535-3480

**Parent Candidates: 5 of 6**

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#### DAVIS M
**Elementary School**
6740 S PAULINA ST Chicago, IL 60636-3307 ➔
1(773)535-9120

**Parent Candidates: 3 of 6**

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#### HENDERSON
**Elementary School**
5650 S WOLCOTT AVE Chicago, IL 60636 ➔
1(773)535-9080

**Parent Candidates: 4 of 6**

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#### KERSHAW
**Elementary School**
6450 S LOWE AVE Chicago, IL 60621 ➔
1(773)535-3850

**Parent Candidates: 7 of 6**

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#### KING ES
**Elementary School**
644 W 71ST ST Chicago, IL 60621 ➔
1(773)535-3875

**Parent Candidates: 6 of 6**

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Snapshots of LSCs Across The Community

Langford
Elementary School
6010 S THROOP ST Chicago, IL 60636
1(773)535-9180
Parent Candidates: 3 of 6
Community Candidates: 0 of 2

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Mays
Elementary School
6656 S NORMAL BLVD Chicago, IL 60621
1(773)535-3892
Parent Candidates: 5 of 6
Community Candidates: 0 of 2

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Ottole
Elementary School
6550 S SEELEY AVE Chicago, IL 60636
1(773)535-9040
Parent Candidates: 2 of 6
Community Candidates: 2 of 2

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Nicholson
Elementary School
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1(773)535-3285
Parent Candidates: 5 of 6
Community Candidates: 1 of 2

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Parker
Elementary School
6800 S STEWART AVE Chicago, IL 60621
1(773)535-3375
Parent Candidates: 5 of 6
Community Candidates: 1 of 2

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<td>Rufina D Brown</td>
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<td>TEACHER</td>
<td>Kathryn K Budewitz</td>
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Snapshots of LSCs Across The Community

**RANDOLPH**
Elementary School
7316 S HOYNE AVE Chicago, IL 60636
1(773)535-9015

Parent Candidates: 3 of 6
Community Candidates: 2 of 2
- COMMUNITY: Theodoria P Constantinoplis 46
- COMMUNITY: Cheryl J Clark 40
- NONCHSTAFF: Darrell F Walton 10
- PARENT: Sheila Grayson 36
- PARENT: Emmanuel Tyler 25
- PARENT: Nakesha D Bland 17
- PRINCIPAL: Elizabeth G Meyers 0
- TEACHER: April A Tettev 17
- TEACHER: Peter Stephanos 15

**WENTWORTH**
Elementary School
1340 W 71ST ST Chicago, IL 60636
1(773)535-3394

Parent Candidates: 4 of 6
Community Candidates: 3 of 2
- COMMUNITY: Barbara J Peoples 44
- COMMUNITY: Marie Guice 33
- COMMUNITY: Victoria Harvey 27
- NONCHSTAFF: Veronica L Shackelford 20
- NONCHSTAFF: Zelda Booth 13
- NONCHSTAFF: Traci L Ortiz 10
- PARENT: Deirdra L Hatter-Jordan 45
- PARENT: Dionne M Frye 40
- PARENT: Janita M Johnson 39

**SIMEON HS**
High School
8147 S VINCENNES AVE Chicago, IL 60620
1(773)535-3200

Parent Candidates: 4 of 6
Community Candidates: 3 of 2

**SUTHERLAND**
Elementary School
10015 S LEAVITT ST Chicago, IL 60643
1(773)535-2580

Parent Candidates: 7 of 6
Community Candidates: 2 of 2
- COMMUNITY: Kevin D Rouser 41
- COMMUNITY: Thomas B McGourty 37
- NONCHSTAFF: Deborah C Barnum 5
- PARENT: JIMMIE AMBROSE 88
- PARENT: Christopher J Steinmetz 85
- PARENT: Candice Cuevas 84
- PARENT: Smith Y Taneshia 82
- PARENT: Keeley Binion Davis 80
- PARENT: Christina M Morrison 48

**DUNBAR HS**
High School
3000 S KING DR Chicago, IL 60616
1(773)534-9000

Parent Candidates: 3 of 6
Community Candidates: 2 of 2

Type
Name
Votes*
COMMUNITY
Julia White-Anderson 19
COMMUNITY
Rikki D Jones 18
PARENT
Sharvonnie D Johnson 20
PARENT
Gregory L Alston 18
PARENT
Krista J Alston 17
PRINCIPAL
Gerald J Morrow 0
TEACHER
Erica L Williams 24
The Basics: Local School Councils
There are currently 513 local school councils: 479 are “elected” LSCs and 34 are “appointed” ALSCs.

LSC terms are for two years, starting on July 1, 2020.

School staffs vote for teacher and non-teaching staff candidates.

In high schools only; students vote for the student candidates.

ALSCs do not award principal contracts.

LSCs in schools on intensive support or AUSL may not have their full authority to make decisions.

### The Basics: Fast Facts

#### Elementary School LSCs Include 12 Voting Members

- ➢ 6 Parent Representatives
- ➢ 2 Community Representatives
- ➢ 2 Teacher Representatives
- ➢ 1 Non-Teacher Staff Representative
- ➢ Principal

#### High School LSCs Include 13 Voting Members

- ➢ 6 Parent Representatives
- ➢ 2 Community Representatives
- ➢ 2 Teacher Representatives
- ➢ 1 Non-Teacher Staff Representative
- ➢ 1 Student Representative
- ➢ Principal
## Types of Principals

**Contract**

LSC selected or retained in four-year signed contract. The contract principal may displace and hire assistant principals.

**Interim**

Appointed by CPS CEO to fill the position if: (1) the LSC does not have the authority to award a principal contract, (2) the contract principal is out of the school for an extended period, or (3) the LSC does not come to consensus to award a contract. The interim principal may displace and hire assistant principals.

**Acting**

Assigned by CPS CEO to cover the principal position for up to 100 school days, which can be renewed at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer. The acting principal cannot displace incumbent assistant principals.

**Administrator in Charge (Retired Principal)**

Assigned by CPS CEO, to cover a principal position on a temporary basis at the discretion of the CEO. An administrator in charge is not a member of the LSC and therefore, does not count for quorum and is not permitted to vote on or influence LSC business.
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<th>Traditional LSCs consist of twelve (12) or thirteen (13)* voting members:</th>
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<tr>
<td>● 6 - Parent representatives</td>
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<td>● 2 - Community representatives</td>
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<td>● 2 - Teacher representatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>● 1 - Non-teaching staff representative</td>
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<td>● 1 - Student representative *High School Only</td>
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<td>● 1 - Principal</td>
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<table>
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<td>● 2 - Teacher representatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>● 2 - Advocates</td>
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<tr>
<td>● 1 - Student representative *High School Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>● 1 - Principal</td>
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</table>
A parent is eligible if he/she:
● Is the parent or legal guardian of a child currently enrolled in the school; and
● Is not an employee of the Board.

A community member is eligible if he/she:
● Is at least 17 years old
● Resides in the attendance boundary or voting district of the school.
● Is not the parent/legal guardian of a child currently enrolled at that school; and
● Is not an employee of the Board.

A student representative is eligible if he/she:
● Is a full-time high school student enrolled in the school.
The Basics: Who’s Ineligible For LSC?

★ Relatives of the principal are not eligible to serve on the LSC
★ No parent or community member may be employed by the Board of Education
★ No member may be employed by a third party to work at the school where they serve
★ Assistant Principals are not eligible to serve on an LSC
★ Individuals convicted of certain felonies are not eligible to serve either permanently or for 10 years after the date of conviction
The Basics: Principal & LSC Collaboration

Information the Principal Shares with the LSC
At the beginning of each school year, the principal provides each LSC member with a copy of the following:

- Current CIWP
- Current School Budget and the CPS Budget Codes
- Current Internal Account Reports
- Current School ESEA/NCLB Title I Parental Involvement Policy and School-Parent Compact (if applicable)
- School Report Card
- Current Position Report
- School Organizational Chart (with names and duties of staff and contact information)
- School Calendar
- List of Council members and their contact information (LSC members must consent to disclosure of their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses)
- Copy of the current LSC Bylaws (if any)

During the school year, the principal provides LSC members with a copy of the following:

- Monthly Internal Account Reports
- School Budget Updates
- Attendance and Discipline Policies and Summaries
- Internal audits and audits or reviews of school programs or operations
- Drafts of the new CIWP, including amendments, and the School Budget (well in advance of the meetings at which the LSC will be asked to review and/or approve them)
- Any reports reasonably necessary for the LSC to perform its duties
Maintain Transparent, Strong & Inclusive LSCs

Stay Connected to Stakeholder Voices

- Elected LSCs are accountable to represent the best interest of constituents; students, parents, faculty, community and school.
- Make yourselves available to remain engaged with the school community. Meet for coffee or set office hours.
- Student reps should have a method to report on peer-feedback

Professional Personnel Leadership Committee, PPLC
Made up of teachers who advise the principal and LSC on education programs, curriculum, CIWP implementation.

Bilingual & Parent Advisory Committee, BAC/PAC Title 1
Federally-funded by Title 1 programs; both committees have specific legal rights to advise the principal and LSC on CIWP and budget.

LSC Sub-committees {Optional}
LSCs may vote to create subcommittees based on school needs: budget, culture & climate, fundraising, social justice, principal evaluation, etc.
Effective & Collaborative LSCs

NTA LSC, parents and lawyers speak at a press conference, 2018.

Chicago’s popular National Teachers Academy fends off closure

By Yana Kunichoff December 3, 2018

Supporters of NTA celebrate in the hallway outside the courtroom on Monday.
5 Minute Group Activity

Review School Progress Report

1. Identify 3 growth areas and 2 successes
2. As LSC, what would you do to inspire changes?
**Group Activity**
Establish Roles: A Note-taker and Reporter. For the next 5-minutes; each group will review a school progress report. As LSC, what would you do to inspire change at the school? As a team, you’ll discuss and write down three (3) growth areas and strengths.

**Three Growth Areas**
1.  
2.  
3.

**Three Successes**
1.  
2.  
3.

**Primary LSC Priorities**
Considering the points you documented above, decide which one will be your LSC's top priority to improve the school. Each group Reporter will present your group's priorities to the room.

One Growth Area

One School Success
So, you’ve reviewed school data...

1. Share 1 growth areas and 1 successes
2. As LSC, what you would do to inspire changes
LSC Elections: How To Prepare & Win
LSC Campaign: Your Checklist

Today: Decide your role with LSC Elections 2020

- Commitment to run and submit your completed application
- Commitment to be the team to get neighbors elected to LSC

Step 1: Complete your application-nomination packets:

- Form 1-20 Candidate Nomination Form
- Form 2-20 Criminal Conviction Disclosure Form
- Form 3-20 Telephone Number Disclosure Form
- Form 4-20 Candidate Statement Form (Optional)
- Form 5-20 Teacher/Staff Candidate Information Form
- Form 6-20 Student Candidate Information Form, (HS only)

Step 2: Submit packet to OLSCR or school you intend to run/serve

- **OLSCR Deadline: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 3:00pm**
  West Washington Blvd., 3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60612
- **School Deadline: Tuesday, March 5, 2020 at 3:00pm** *Deliver to the school you intend to run and serve

Step 3: Campaign and Elections

- Research & engage school stakeholder’s where they are
- Present your ideas at the public candidate forum
- GOTV: Canvass/inspire voters to cast ballots on Election Day
- **Having a strong team around you will make this easier & fun!**
## LSC Campaign: Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 5</td>
<td>Candidate Filing Deadline - School Site</td>
<td>At the school you plan to serve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23 - 27</td>
<td>Public Candidate Forums</td>
<td>At the school you plan to serve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22 - 23</td>
<td>Election Day</td>
<td>Elementary - April 22 High School - April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Leadership Description</td>
<td>Time Commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Local School Council Reps     | 1. Hire, fire, evaluate principal.  
   2. Oversee budget and expenditures.  
   3. Monitor Continuous Improvement Work Plan  
   4. Serve as school-community advocate. | Moderate  
   Election season  
   2 - 4 hours per month |
| Campaign Volunteer Leaders    | 1. Identifying leadership roles and team.  
   2. Develop strategies to campaign and win!  
   3. Maintain community connections to activate. | Variable  
   Election season  
   Post-election mobilization |
| Election Volunteer Leaders    | 1. Support election day logistics and materials.  
   2. Motivate supporters and neighbors to GOTV.  
   3. Coordinate teams to canvass & poll watch. | Low  
   Election season  
   Election day |
Engaging Your School Community

1. Create a brief LSC platform statement
2. Include a strong ask for support/votes
Present Your LSC Slate Platform!
## LSC Campaign: Candidate Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Interest Area</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Dedicated Candidate Support | General LSC questions/support  
|                         | Support with nomination forms  
|                         | How to write strong candidate statements  
|                         | Prepare for your candidate forum  
|                         | Discuss campaign platform, voter engagement & more                           | Local coffeehouse, office visits, etc.                                   |
| March - April          | Organizing Your LSC Slate  
|                        | Discuss/develop campaign platform, materials & more                          | Available weekly on Zoom                                                 |
|                        | Discuss overall campaign win strategies                                       | To register, email: natasha@ilraiseyourhand.org                        |
|                        | Connecting With The Village  
|                        | Tips/methods to effectively communicate your platform                          |                                                                        |
| Campaign Video Tutorials | Campaign Video Tutorials                                                        |                                                                        |
| March - April          | Canvassing and Voter Engagement  
|                        | How to meet and engage voters  
|                        | Discuss/develop effective ways to do outreach                                 | Available weekly on Zoom                                                 |
|                        | GOTV  
|                        | How to mobilize for your election day win-number                               | To register, email: natasha@ilraiseyourhand.org                        |
Who’s not in the room today that should be?

In the next 2 days, commit to call, text and email at least five (5) neighbors, friends and family to run for LSC.
Please complete the Feedback Form & Commitment Cards

Thank You For Attending!