

EL RANCHO HIGH SCHOOL BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME OF THE COUNCIL

The **El Rancho Unified School District** has established the **El Rancho High School Site Council**. Hereinafter, the School Site Council may be referred to as the Council.

ARTICLE II – ROLE OF THE COUNCIL

The School Site Council is required, under state law, to serve as the school community representative body for determining the focus of the school’s academic instructional program and all related categorical resources. The School Site Council has responsibility for these duties:

- Analyzing and evaluating the academic achievement of all students in the school
- Obtaining recommendations from school site advisory, standing, and special committees regarding the focus of the *School’s Single Plan for Student Achievement*
- Developing and approving the school plan and all related proposed expenditures in accordance with all state and federal laws and regulations
- Recommending the school plan including related budget expenditures to the local governing board
- Providing ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the plan and budgets/expenditures
- Revising the school plan, including expenditures, timelines, and evaluation criteria, as needed
- Participating in all local, state, and federal reviews of the school’s program for compliance and quality
- Annually evaluating the effectiveness of the school’s progress toward meeting school goals to raise student achievement for all students
- Encouraging broad representation of parents, community members, teachers, and students, if appropriate, including all socioeconomic, ethnic, and programmatic groups represented in the school in leadership roles and in the activities of the School Site Council
- Carrying out all other duties assigned to the council by the district governing board and by state or federal law

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Every two years, an English Learner Advisory Committee may elect to have the School Site Council serve as the site leadership body for the EL program. If this occurs, the School Site Council, after training, will assist the principal and staff in:

- Developing a detailed school plan for EL students as a part of the Single Plan for Student Achievement that is submitted to the local board of education
- Developing the school's needs assessment for EL students
- Administrating the school's language census
- Assuring that efforts have been made to notify EL parents of the importance of regular school attendance
- Every two years, a School Advisory Committee may elect to have the School Site Council serve as the site leadership body for the Economic Impact Aid Program will assist the principal and staff in:
 - Developing a detailed school plan for low income, educationally disadvantaged, and English learner students as a part of the Single Plan for Student Achievement that is submitted to the local board of education
 - The School Site Council will vote to determine whether the school will participate in the School-based Coordination Program.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS

Section 1: Size and Composition

The School Site Council will be composed of **17** members.

Half of the representation on the council shall be from the school staff.

This council half will include:

(1) Principal

(3) Teachers, selected by teachers; (NOTE: Classroom teachers shall constitute the majority of those persons representing the school staff)

(1) Other School Personnel (Classified)

-and-

The remaining half on the council shall be evenly distributed between:

(6) Parents selected by parents at the school:

(4) Students, selected by students

(2) Alternates

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Article III Section 2: Term of Office

All members of the Council shall serve for a term of **2** years.

However, in order to achieve staggered membership, one-half, or the nearest approximation, of each representative group shall be selected during the odd years and the remaining number of members selected during the even years.

At the end of each representative member's term, membership terminates. In order to continue to serve as a council member, the member must be reselected by the appropriate representative group.

With the exception of the principal, a chance method or lottery will be used to determine the length of each member's term at the first council meeting.

ARTICLE III Section 3: Selection/Election of Members

Elections of council members shall be held each year in **May**.

Annually, the School Site Council will establish an Election Committee composed of a teacher, other school personnel, parent, and student, if appropriate, to oversee the election of council members.

Election Committee: The duties of the committee shall be to supervise the election procedure, to identify nominees on the basis of the nominating procedure, to unseal and count the ballots, and to declare elected representatives on the basis of the election procedure.

The following procedures shall be followed in nominating candidates and selecting/electing council members:

- Teachers: **Nominations**
- Parents/Guardians: **Nominations and elections**
- Other School Personnel: **Nominations**
- Students, if appropriate: **Nominations and ASB elections**

Election ballots shall be prepared by the Election Committee with the assistance of the principal and shall be distributed in the following manner to each peer group:

Administration will organize.

In all elections for council members, ties will be decided by lot.

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ARTICLE III Section 4: Voting Rights

Each member of the council shall be entitled to one vote and may cast that vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the Council. Absentee ballots shall not be permitted. An alternate representative may not cast a vote in the absence of the selected member. The role of an alternate is for information collection only.

ARTICLE III Section 5: Termination of Membership

A member shall no longer hold membership should he or she cease to be a resident of the school or no longer meets the membership requirements under which he or she was selected (e.g., a parent becomes employed at the site). Membership shall automatically terminate for any member who is absent from all regular meetings for a period of 2 consecutive meetings without prior notice. The Council, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members, can suspend or expel a member.

ARTICLE III Section 6: Transfer of Membership

Membership on the Council may not be assigned or transferred.

ARTICLE III Section 7: Resignation

Any selected council member may terminate his or her membership by submitting a written letter of resignation to the Council chairperson.

ARTICLE III Section 8: Vacancy

Any vacancy on the Council that occurs during the term of a member shall be filled by:

- Seating of a previously elected alternate member to fill the remainder of the term of the vacant seat

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

ARTICLE IV SECTION 1: Officers

The officers of the Council shall include a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and a parliamentarian.

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ARTICLE IV Section 2: Election of Officers and Terms of Office

The officers of the Council shall be elected **bi-annually, as needed**, and shall serve a term until a successor has been elected.

Any member of the Council, including the principal, may serve in any officer capacity.

ARTICLE IV Section 3: Removal of Officers

Any officer may be removed from their office by a two-thirds vote of all council members.

ARTICLE IV Section 4: Vacancy of an Officer Position

A vacancy in any office because of resignation, removal, disqualification, death, or otherwise shall be filled for the remainder of the officer's term.

A vacancy in any office shall be filled by a special election of the Council.

This special election will be included in the posted meeting agenda.

ARTICLE IV Section 5: Officer Duties

The chairperson shall:

- Preside at all meetings of the Council
- Sign all letters, reports, and other communications of the Council
- Perform all duties incident to the office of the chairperson
- Attend all DAC meetings

The vice-chairperson shall:

- Represent the chairperson or council in assigned duties
- Substitute for the chairperson in his or her absence

The secretary shall:

- Keep minutes of all regular and special meetings of the Council
- Promptly transmit to each of the council members and district rep-representative true and correct copies of the minutes of such meetings
- Provide all notices in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws
- Serve as custodian of the School Site Council records
- Maintain a register of the address, phone number, and term of office of each council member
- Maintain a register of the chairpersons of other school advisory and subcommittee members, including addresses and phone numbers
- Perform all duties incident to the office of secretary
- Perform such duties that are assigned by the chairperson or the council
- Draft positions or plans for council review.

Annually, each School Site Council shall convene a professional development committee, composed of a majority of teachers, to determine the professional development activities included within the Single Plan for Student Achievement.

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ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

Section 1: Standing and Special Committees

The School Site Council may, from time to time, establish standing or special committees to perform various functions as prescribed by the Council. All such committees will include representation from the various representative groups. All appointed individuals and committees serve at the pleasure of the Council and are advisory to it. No standing or special committee may exercise the authority of the Council. A standing or special committee may be abolished by a vote of the Council.

The purpose of these committees is to:

- Gather and analyze data
- Examine materials, staffing, or funding possibilities
- Propose to the Council strategies for improving the instructional practices

SECTION 2: STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Unless otherwise determined by the Council, the Council chairperson shall appoint members of the standing or special committees. A vacancy on a standing or special committee shall be filled by appointment of the chairperson.

SECTION 3: STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE TERM OF OFFICE

The Council shall determine the membership terms for all standing and special committees. This term should be communicated to the committee members at the beginning of their assignment.

SECTION 4: STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE RULES

Each standing and special committee will establish procedural rules that are consistent with the Council's bylaws and the district governing board.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS OF THE SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

SECTION 1: MEETINGS

The council shall hold its regular meetings at **5:00 P.M.** on the **first Wednesday of the month.**

Special meetings of the Council may be called by the chairperson or by a majority vote of the Council.

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ARTICLE VI SECTION 2: PLACE OF MEETINGS

The Council shall hold its regular meetings at a facility provided by the school, unless the school principal determines that such a facility accessible to the public, including handicapped persons, is unavailable or does not meet health and/or safety codes. Alternative meeting sites shall be determined jointly by the school principal and Council chairperson.

ARTICLE VI SECTION 3: NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Written notice of the meeting shall be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting at the school site, or any other appropriate place that is accessible to the public. This written notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the meeting, and contain an agenda describing each item of business to be discussed or acted upon. Any changes in the established date, time, or location of the meeting needs to be especially noted in the agenda. The Council shall not take any action on any item of business unless that item appears on the posted agenda or unless the council or committee members present, by unanimous vote, find that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the council or committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

Questions or brief statements made at a meeting by members of the Council, committee, or public that do not have a significant effect on pupils or employees in the school or school district or that can be resolved solely by the provision of information need not be described on an agenda as items of business.

Determine the timeline for council members to receive agenda and back-up materials.

All required notices shall be delivered to council and committee members no less than 72 hours, and no more than 7 days in advance of the meeting, personally, by mail, or by email.

Determine the procedure for notifying the public of meeting schedules and agendas.

The Council will annually notify representative groups of the meetings schedules through:

- Inclusion in school communications (e.g., bulletins, website, Edulink, newsletters)
- Information placed in staff mailboxes

ARTICLE VI SECTION 4: QUORUM

The presence of 50% of the Council membership in attendance at the meeting will constitute a quorum. No decisions of the Council shall be valid unless a quorum of the membership is present (50% parents, 50% students, 50% school staff, 51% of all members).

ARTICLE VI SECTION 5: CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Meetings of the Council shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of order established by Education Code 35147 and the *Robert's Rules of Order* or an adaptation thereof approved by the Council. If the Council violates any of the procedural meeting requirements found in Ed. Code Section 35147, and upon demand of any person, the Council shall reconsider the item at its next meeting, after allowing for public input.

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ARTICLE VI SECTION 6: MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

All meetings of the Council and its appointed committees shall be open to the public. Any member of the public shall be able to address the Council during the meeting on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the School Site Council on any item of interest to the public, before or during the Council’s consideration of that item.

The Council may not take any action on any item of business unless that item appears on the posted agenda or unless council members present, by unanimous vote, find that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

Each meeting agenda will include a time for public comment. The School Site Council will provide opportunities for the public to comment on matters that are not on the agenda, but no action may be taken by the Council.

The minutes of the Council meeting are public records and are available to the public.

Any materials provided to a School Site Council shall be made available to any member of the public who requests the materials pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 [Commencing with Section 6250] of Division 7 of Title 1).

ARTICLE VI SECTION 7: COMMUNICATION WITH THE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

The School Site Council shall implement the rules and regulations as defined in local board policy. The Council may communicate with the board by submitting a letter to the Board of Education office. A School Site Council may request to speak at a local board of education meeting by following district procedures for communicating with the school board.

A local board of education has the right to deny the content and related budget found in the school’s Single Plan for Student Achievement. The Board of Education will provide written notification to the Council about their concerns.

ARTICLE VI SECTION 8: UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Annually, the School Site Council shall participate in training about the district’s uniform complaint procedures. This training will review procedures for filing a complaint. If any School Site Council member or member of the public believes that the School Site Council has taken an action that is in violation of their legal authority, the individual or group may file a uniform compliant form with the district.

ARTICLE VII – BYLAW AMENDMENTS

An amendment of these bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of the Council by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. Written notice of the proposed amendment must be posted as a part of the agenda and must be submitted to council members at least 3 days (72 hours) prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered for adoption.

