

Homer Flex Alternative Governance Structure: Advisory Council

Purpose

The Homer Flex Alternative Governance Structure has replaced the traditional Site Council per Kenai Peninsula School Board Administration Regulation (AR) 0420 which states that a “request can be made to the Superintendent to consider a substitute process for gathering information and assisting with site decision making.” This structure was approved in 2001.

Our alternative structure is called the Flex Advisory Council, which includes representatives of the Flex staff, parents and students (when available), and community partners that may include, but are not limited to, the following organizations:

South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services (The Center), R.E.C Room, Kachemak Bay Family Planning, Haven House, Homer Police Department, Homer Students In Transition program, Homer Methodist Church Food Bank, Department of Juvenile Justice, Office of Children’s Services, and Homer High School.

Meetings

The Flex Advisory Council meets quarterly to gather and disseminate information and assist with site decisions related to the education of our students in academic, social/emotional, and vocational realms. Meetings will occur on the second Thursday of each quarter, or as agreed upon by the council.

Historically, student and parent participation has been limited, but parents, students, and community members are invited and encouraged to attend. The dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the website and via social media. All input is appreciated and taken seriously.

Agenda

Proposed agenda items, including student, parent, staff, and community member reports, are encouraged and appreciated. Proposed agenda items and related materials can be sent to the principal no later than two weeks before the meeting. A final agenda will be sent out (and posted) no later than a week before the meeting. (Note: changes to the Advisory Council bylaws can be proposed in this same manner).

Minutes

Minutes are taken and are available for review on the school website.

Voting

The Advisory Council board shall consist of no less than five members, and a quorum must be present for a vote to be taken. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the membership of the council shall constitute a quorum. A majority, fifty-one percent (51%), is required for a vote to pass.

The Advisory Council shall attempt to reach consensus in all decisions and recommendations. In the event consensus cannot be reached, a vote shall be taken by a show of hands with a simple majority prevailing. Robert's Rules of Order may be used, if needed, to address resolution of a controversial issue.

Council Roles

Principal/Chairperson:

- Serves as a resource providing information regarding the local school educational program.
- Keeps the council apprised of school policies, curriculum, etc.
- Facilitates the distribution of council minutes and agendas.
- Plans each meeting and establishes an agenda in a timely manner to notify the community of the purpose of each meeting.
- Calls the meeting to order, maintains order, and sees that the meeting is properly adjourned.

Secretary:

- Keeps accurate, complete minutes and makes them available to the public via the school website.
- Keeps accurate records of council membership, attendance, duties, and special assignments.
- Prepares copies of the agenda.

Parent and Community Representatives:

- Function as council members according to established procedures, making suggestions and recommendations representative of the view of parents, citizens, and community organizations.
- Participate regularly in council meetings and carry out council assignments.
- Act as resource persons for the council, especially in the solutions of community-related problems that affect the school and its pupils.

Student Representatives:

- Serve as representatives of all students securing suggestions and recommendations from members of the student body for consideration by the council.

- Participate regularly in council meetings and carry out council assignments.

Faculty and Staff Representatives:

- Function as members of the council to represent the views and interests of the school staff.
- Participate regularly in council meetings and carry out council assignments.
- Act as resource persons for the council by making available specialized information about the educational program, innovative ideas, and available resources.