

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Citizens' Advisory Committees and Task Forces

Citizens' Advisory Committees and Task Forces are an important mechanism of involving the community in analysis and recommendation processes for the District. Examples include, but are not limited to, Community Finance Committee, Facilities Committee, School Boundary and Closure Committees, etc.

The following guidelines have been prepared to assist an ad hoc citizens' committee:

- A. A specific charge or assignment shall be made to the committee.
- B. The board shall appoint a committee member based upon the person's contribution to the accomplishment of the committee's task.
- C. The committee shall be advisory only. The board does not and, under the law cannot, relinquish its decision-making responsibilities.
- D. The committee shall make periodic progress reports to the board; such interim reports as well as the committee's final findings, and recommendations shall become matters of public record by virtue of their presentation to the board in a public board meeting.
- E. Minority recommendations, as well as those of the majority, shall be welcomed by the board.
- F. The duration of the committee shall be indicated when it is established. The board may authorize the committee to continue its work beyond the original termination date.
- G. Staff consultants and other resource assistance shall be made available. The committee may elect to request advice or opinions from others as well, including representative citizens of the community.
- H. Committee meeting guidelines are as follows:
  - 1. The frequency of meetings, meeting times, meeting places, and the nature of the meeting announcements shall normally be determined by the committee.
  - 2. The committee may invite public attendance if it feels such attendance shall facilitate the accomplishment of its goals.
  - 3. The committee shall develop meeting procedures, which shall assist in the orderly pursuit of its task.
- I. Expenses of the committee may be allowed if authorized in advance.
- J. Appointment of the committee chairman shall be the prerogative of the board.
- K. By agreeing to serve on the committee, a person indicates his/her willingness to comply with the board's guidelines for an ad hoc citizens' advisory committee and with specific guidelines and procedures developed for the committee.

- L. If the committee acts on behalf of the board, conducts hearings, or takes testimony or public comment, its meetings will be open to the public. RCW 42.30.020.