

May 5, 2017 Discussion Exercise: Advisory Council memberships' needs & areas of expertise

*Advisory Council members have the following needs:*

*With regard to conducting the business of the Advisory Council...*

- For a collaborative and comprehensive effort to develop a plan to address discipline and attendance in schools.
- For the Advisory Council to maintain continuous engagement from members with open, honest discussion, and to ensure that discussions result in action and change.
- For the Advisory Council to engage in authentic, meaningful stakeholder input into reviewing best practices around providing support to public school systems and implementation of each school's master plan.
- For the Advisory Council to discuss issues of statewide impact, and to keep an open mind about all members' ideas and concerns.
- For the Advisory Council to keep its priorities about the best interests of children.

*With regard to the Advisory Council's substantive work ...*

- For the Advisory Council to make decisions about improving school discipline statewide.
- For a fairer application of discipline laws statewide, done in line with best practice and in a manner that respects the rights of students and families.
- For positive changes to state discipline laws.
- For schools and students to have clear, direct, and explicit guidelines concerning student behavior and discipline, in alignment with schools' master discipline plans.
- For an establishment of a statewide system of behavior and discipline that is beneficial to all stakeholders.
- For a more in-depth understanding of the process that determines the disciplinary consequences for all students, and for a statewide collaborative effort to improve outcomes for all students by re-evaluating how we apply discipline.
- For the Advisory Council to promote best practices to improve behavior at school.
- For the Advisory Council to gather information about the state department of education's planning around model master discipline plans, safe school planning, improving access to mental health services, providing assistance to parents, improving implementation of positive behavioral interventions and supports and coordination with juvenile justice agencies.
- For a clarification of the rights and responsibilities of all parties in school discipline, and for information into how educators should structure their classrooms and school environments to aide students, protect themselves, and maintain a productive learning environment.

*Advisory Council members have the following areas of expertise:*

- Knowledge of how to run and improve a school.
- Perspective of working with vulnerable children who are disproportionately impacted by overly punitive discipline policies and practices.
- Experience in the classroom, working with students and parents to address student behavior and discipline issues, and working with teachers.
- Knowledge of running a school and making decisions on behalf of students every day, observations about the impact of student behavior on administrators, teachers, parents, and other students.
- Knowledge of state discipline laws and policies, and knowledge of how other states have established their discipline laws and policies.
- Perspective of children and families impacted by the system.
- Decades of experience implementing and coordinating positive behavioral interventions and supports.
- Access to national and state-level partners and researchers that can share information about best practices implemented nationwide.
- Access to statewide membership that can provide feedback on relative successes, failures, and needs with regard to school discipline and student behavior.
- Firsthand knowledge of parenting a child who has received disciplined when he needed supports.