

PLAN FOR PARTICIPATION



Plan For Participation Document Developed/Reviewed By:

Mary Beth Fiore, Superintendent of Schools

Al Turshman, High School Principal

Jeff Lawrence, Middle School Principal

Andy Lutz, Elementary Principal

Dawn Carling, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development

Lori Andriene, Teacher Representative

Melanie Beach, Teacher Representative

Carol Cady, Teacher Representative

Tammy Farley, Teacher Representative

Maria Hager, Teacher Representative

Anita Scata, Teacher Representative

Amy Gee, Support Staff Representative

Mary Arnold, Parent Representative

Deb Palmer, Parent Representative

**In collaboration with the Elmira Heights Central School District
Board of Education**

President Harry Blish

Vice-President Joseph Sullivan

Lisa Benedict

William Brewer

Harvey Harris

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Section I

Definition– Shared Decision Making

Shared decision making is a collaborative process that actively involves stakeholders in discussion and decision-making in areas that relate to student achievement.

Purpose– Shared Decision Making

The purpose of Shared Decision Making is to follow a structured process that focuses on improving teaching and learning.

Section II

The District Leadership Team (DLT)

Purpose/Responsibilities

- > Lead and implement the Shared Decision Making Plan
- > Review the Shared Decision Making Plan Biennially
- > Facilitate district-wide communication
- > Plan staff development activities
- > Review building plans to ensure alignment with district goals
- > Review critical student achievement data
- > Implement goals established by the Board of Education that support the District Mission

Areas of Shared Decision Making

- > Educational issues within the context of the Mission of the District
- > Building plans that impact student achievement
- > District created plans that focus on instruction and staff development
- > Data and information relating to student achievement

Limitations of Authority

- > Mandated subjects of bargaining
- > Assignment of personnel
- > Hiring personnel
- > Discipline/discharge of employees
- > Other duties of the Board of Education established by law

Composition of DLT

Stakeholders	Members
Superintendent of Schools	1
Administrators	4
Teachers	6
Parents	2
Support Staff	2 (minimum of 1)
Community	2 (minimum of 1)
Others	*

* Ad-hoc committee members by invitation. Members will have no voting authorities.

Election Process

Each stakeholder group will elect its representatives based upon a fair and equitable process that is designed by each constituency. (administrators, teachers, support staff, PFO, Project Graduation)

Community members will be selected by the standing DLT committee from a list of people expressing an interest in being involved with the DLT.

Procedural Guidelines for DLT

The following are the guidelines for the operation of the DLT. These guidelines shall be revisited yearly and revised, if necessary, at the October meeting of the DLT.

Team Roles

The DLT will assign the following roles among its members. These roles shall rotate monthly.

- > Committee Chairperson/Facilitator
- > Note-taker
- > Time keeper

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall be responsible for assisting the note taker by disseminating minutes to all constituency groups following each meeting.

The DLT will share the responsibility for maintaining effectiveness and productivity of the team.

Operation Principles/Ground Rules

The DLT will develop and implement operational principles or “ground rules.” These shall be reviewed and revised as necessary in the September meeting of the DLT.

Structures/Procedures/Practices

The DLT will establish agendas for each meeting to be shared with all stake holder groups. Minutes/highlights will be distributed after each meeting to all groups as well.

Schedule

The DLT will create a schedule that will accommodate its members and foster the greatest amount of participation. The team will meet on a monthly basis, with additional meetings if necessary and agreed upon by DLT members. The schedule for the upcoming academic year will be set at the June meeting.

Training

The DLT will receive the necessary training to function as a group.

Quorum

The DLT will designate its own quorum requirements at the meeting in September.

Budget

The DLT will adhere to standard district budgetary procedures.

Model for Decision Making

The DLT will operate with a consensus model for all decision making. The consensus model is defined as:

I believe I understand others' point of view; I believe others understand my point of view. I am willing to implement the decision that I helped make and will support it publicly and privately in words and action.

Transition of Team Members

New team members shall be elected to the DLT by September of each year. Terms of service will be two years. Members can be re-elected to successive terms.

SECTION III

THE BUILDING LEADERSHIP TEAMS (BLT)

Purpose/Responsibilities

- > To prepare, lead and implement building goals that align with the district goals focused on site-based issues that relate to student achievement.
- > To communicate with the DLT and constituency groups regarding issues, actions, plan and results.
- > To build teamwork, ownership and support the decisions made at the building level.
- > To assist with the budgetary process and set priorities within the building level.
- > To annually assess the effectiveness of decisions made on Improving student achievement.

Areas of Team Decision Making

- > Educational issues within the context of the Mission of the District
- > Selection of textbooks
- > Development of grade level curriculum and instructional programs
- > Budgetary decisions that align with building priorities

Areas Not Subject To Shared Decision Making

- > Mandated subjects of bargaining
- > Assignment of personnel
- > Hiring personnel
- > Discipline/discharge of employees

Composition of the Team

The composition of the BLT will be defined and implemented at each building level but must include all representatives mandated by regulations. The DLT will receive building level team composition and operating procedures annually.

Election Process

The election process will be established at each Building Level Team.

Procedural Guidelines

The procedural guidelines will be established at each Building Level Team.

All procedural guidelines will be submitted to the DLT.

SECTION IV

Action teams

Purpose

From time to time it may be necessary to create action teams to address specific tasks identified by the BLT. Action teams must report directly to the BLT and must operate within the guidelines established by the district and building level teams.

Composition

The composition will be determined by the BLT.

Obligation

The action team will be charged with preparing an action plan that addresses the specific issue identified by the BLT. The completed plan will be submitted to the BLT for review, modification and implementation.

Action teams must work within the established budgetary procedures in the district.

SECTION V

Means and Standards

Data will be used to assess the effectiveness of plans developed to increase student achievement. Some examples of data to be examined include:

NYS Tests and Standardized tests:

Grade 3-8 ELA, Math Tests

Grade 4 Science Test

Grade 8 Science Test

NYS Regents Exams

NYSESLAT

NYS Grade 5 & Grade 8 Social Studies Tests

Terranova Assessments Grade 1-2

Performance Based Assessments:

Portfolios

Performance Based Assessments:

Student performance in Art, Music, Drama and Athletics

Career Development and Occupational Studies Performance

Involvement in Co-curricular and Interscholastic Athletic events

Other Data/Sources of Evidence

School interim reports and reports cards

Attendance Rates

Disciplinary Reports

Graduation Rates

Retention Rates

Free and Reduced Lunch Rates

Failure Rates

Honor Roll Lists

Drop Out Rates

LEAP Data

STEP Data

DIBELS

OTHER

Parent Input

Teacher recommendations/feedback

Community Based Surveys

SECTION VI

Review and Resolution

Purpose/Responsibilities

Implementation of the Review and Resolution procedures shall be the responsibility of the DLT. The DLT shall serve to:

- > Review BLT plans to ensure alignment with district goals
- > Identify areas of misalignment between BLT's and mediate a solution
- > Resolve any conflicts that may arise

SECTION VII

Accountability

The DLT and BLT teams are charged with carrying out the purpose/responsibilities as outlined for the year. This shall include information as provided by each BLT.

SECTION VIII

State/Federal Guidelines for Parental Involvement

The Shared Decision Making Plan shall be implemented in accordance with all state and federal regulations. The plan shall be reviewed and recertified biennially.