

Board Policy 3625 - School Governance
Policy Implementation Issues & Questions
identified and discussed by Special Committee meeting participants and the public

1. The Board of Education policy on local school governance must be driven by the public interest to achieve better results for students. Policy implementation questions to address include:
 - * Does a school governance team need to be "certified" (i.e. school's governance process and school improvement plan are reviewed and approved by Superintendent and ratified by Board of Education) in order to exercise its local governance responsibility and authority? If so, what is involved in a "certification" process?
 - * What are the consequences to a school governance team that repeatedly fails to achieve its performance and outcome objectives?
2. There is limited and uneven professional expertise and capacity within our schools and central service departments to effectively implement local school governance (i.e. practicing collaborative leadership; holding a vision for student achievement, health, and safety; planning and managing budgets; hiring and supporting employees; using research and evaluation data; facilitating teacher-led inquiry) and achieve results throughout OUSD. Policy implementation questions to address include:
 - * How do we train and support school governance teams to ensure an equitable implementation of quality school governance inputs?
 - * How do we document existing promising practices (i.e. school governance, pedagogy, curriculum, assessments, parent engagement) being implemented in our schools and central service departments, and share and adapt these experiences to a larger array of users?
 - * How do we ensure the needs of historically and chronically under-served students (i.e. students with special needs; African American male students; English Learners) are effectively and equitably addressed in all schools?
3. How do we best integrate the use of existing and emerging standards, tools, and systems being developed as part of OUSD's implementation of the Board-adopted Five-Year Strategic Plan "Community Schools, Thriving Students", including, but not limited to:
 - * School Site Council
(serving as a "school governance team")
 - * Common Core State Standards
(representing an established OUSD strategic priority)
 - * Community School Strategic Site Plan
(supporting school engagement, planning, and resource alignment)
 - * School Quality Review
(supporting school engagement, planning, and resource alignment)
 - * Balanced Scorecard
(providing performance and outcome accountability measures)
4. Understanding context is fundamental.