

**Crews Lake Middle School**  
**School Advisory Council**  
**2020-21**



**SAC Overview**

***What is a School Advisory Council (SAC)?***

The School Advisory Council is a school-based group intended to represent the school, the community and those persons closest to the students. The group shares responsibility for guiding the school toward continuous improvement. The district school board is responsible, by Florida law, for establishing an advisory council for each school in the district and shall develop procedures for the election and appointment of advisory council members. Each School Advisory Council shall include in its name the words "school advisory council."

***What is the role of the School Advisory Council?***

The School Advisory Council is responsible for final decision making at the school relating to the implementation of the provisions of the annual School Improvement Plan. Each School Advisory Council assists in the annual preparation and evaluation of the school improvement plan [in Pasco called the Success Plan (SuP)] and in the preparation of the school's annual budget.

***Who serves on the School Advisory Council?***

A majority of the members of each School Advisory Council must be persons who are not employed by the school district. Each advisory council should be composed of the principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers, education support employees, students, parents, and other business and community citizens who are representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school. Certain members are elected by their peers, while business and community members are appointed, and the principal automatically serves. Only students in secondary schools serve on a SAC.

In alignment with Best Practices in Inclusive Education (BPIE), the Bureau of School Improvement encourages the inclusion of parents of children with disabilities on SACs, as well as teachers or support employees whose primary role involves working with students with disabilities, in an effort to achieve representation of an entire school community.

***Do SAC meetings fall under the Sunshine Law?***

Yes. According to Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, all meetings of any board or commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution, at which official acts are to be taken are declared to be public meetings open to the public at all times. No resolution, rule, or formal action shall be considered binding except as taken or made at such meetings. The board or commission must provide

reasonable notice of all such meetings.

*How much money is allotted to each SAC and how is it managed?*

A portion of net revenues, as determined annually by the Legislature, shall be distributed to each school district and shall be made available to each public school in the district for enhancing school performance through development and implementation of a school improvement plan pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). A portion of these moneys, as determined annually in the General Appropriations Act, must be allocated to each school in an equal amount for each student enrolled. These moneys may be expended only on programs or projects selected by the school advisory council or by a parent advisory committee created pursuant to this paragraph. A portion of the funds provided in the annual General Appropriations Act for use by School Advisory Councils must be used for implementing the School Improvement Plan. The money is sent by DOE to each district, which forwards allocations to each local school SAC. Expenditures are reported to the State and are subject to annual audit. [For further information, please see Section 1001.42(18)(d), F.S. and Section 24.121(5)(c), F.S.]

In addition to the money described above, SACs also play a role in determining how to distribute FL School Recognition funds, or “A+ funds.” Schools that receive a school grade of A, improve by at least one letter grade and sustain the improvement the following year qualify to receive school recognition funds. The funds may be used for nonrecurring bonuses to faculty and staff, nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or materials to assist in maintaining and improving student performance, or temporary personnel for the school to assist in maintaining and improving student performance. This determination must be made jointly by the SAC and the school staff by February 1. [1008.36, F.S. and 24.121(5)(c), F.S.]

**Membership Composition, Roles, and Responsibilities**

*How are business and community members selected?*

The principal appoints business and community members by seeking possible members from local businesses, chambers of commerce, community and civic organizations, and the public at large. Appointed members serve a one year term.