

Building an Effective Site-Council

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Handshake Activity

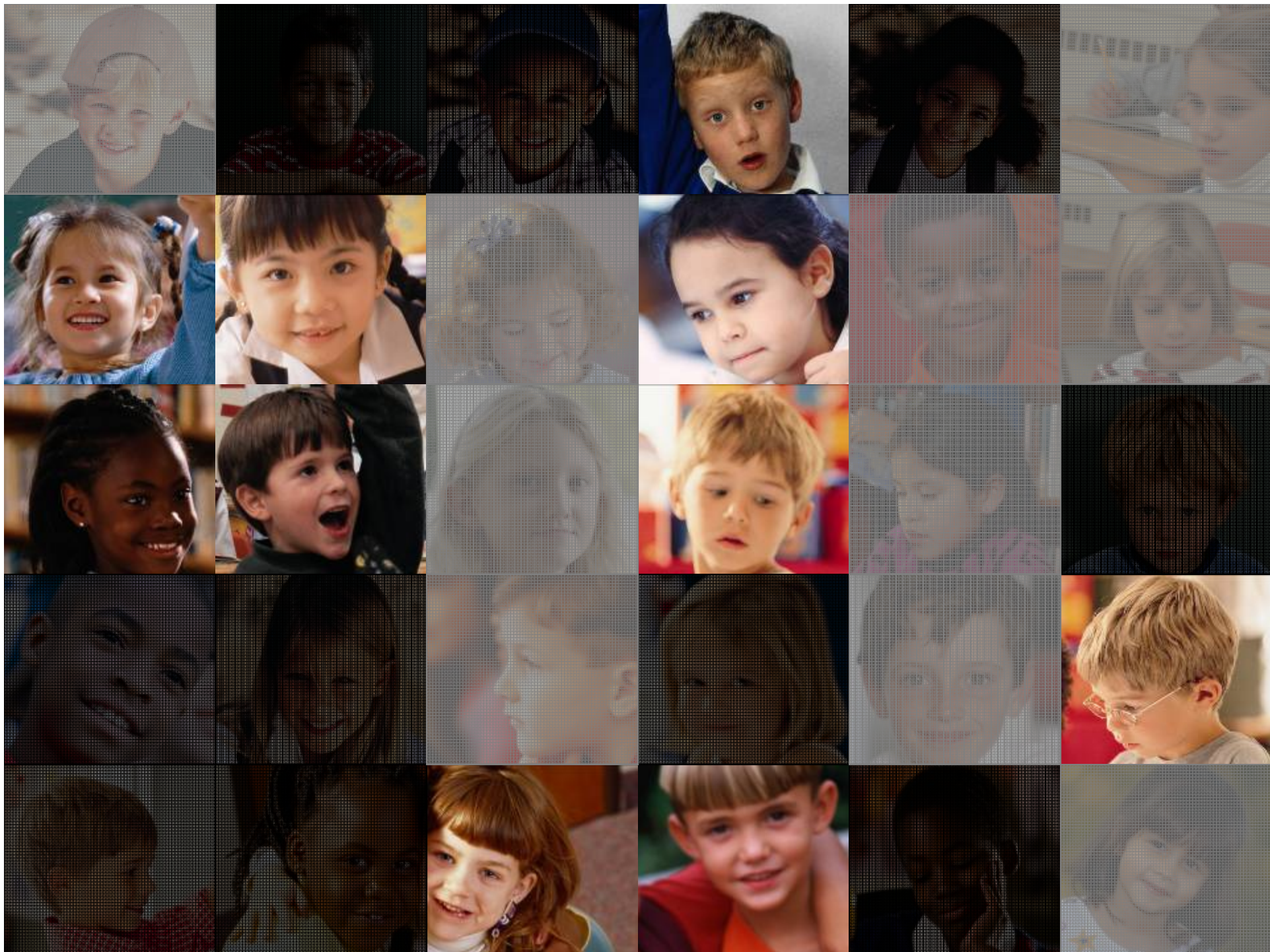


- Why were you willing to serve on your local site council?

Handshake Activity



- In your opinion, what is the value of public education?



When did Site Councils begin?

In 1992, the Kansas legislature enacted K.S.A. 72-6439, a state statute that instituted the Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) system.



How have Site Councils roles changed since 1992?



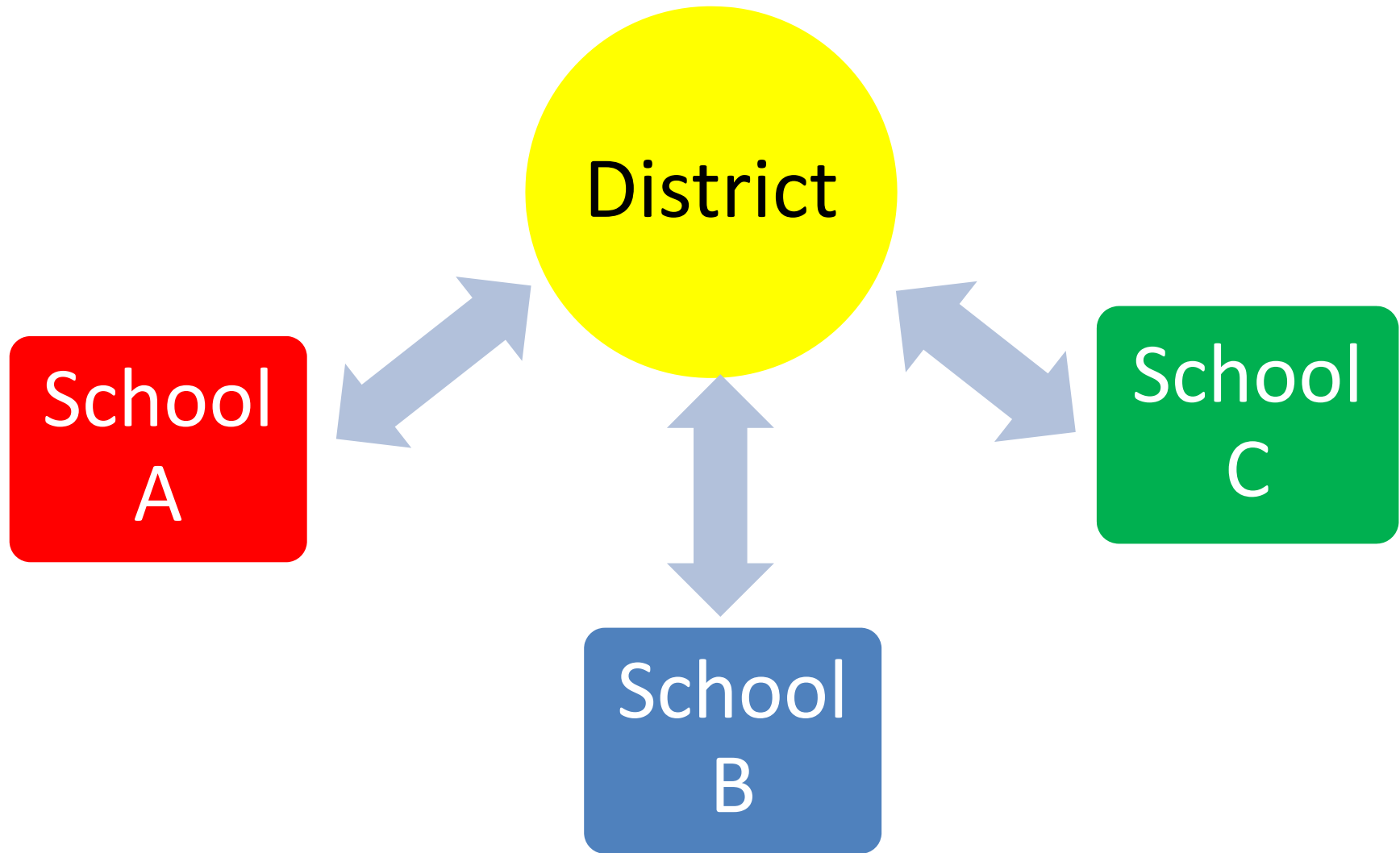
Site Based	→	Systems Based
Site Goals	→	District Goals
Old QPA	→	New QPA
Total Autonomy	→	Defined Autonomy
Local Standards	→	State Standards
ESEA	→	NCLB
		→ Waiver

RESPONSIBILITY

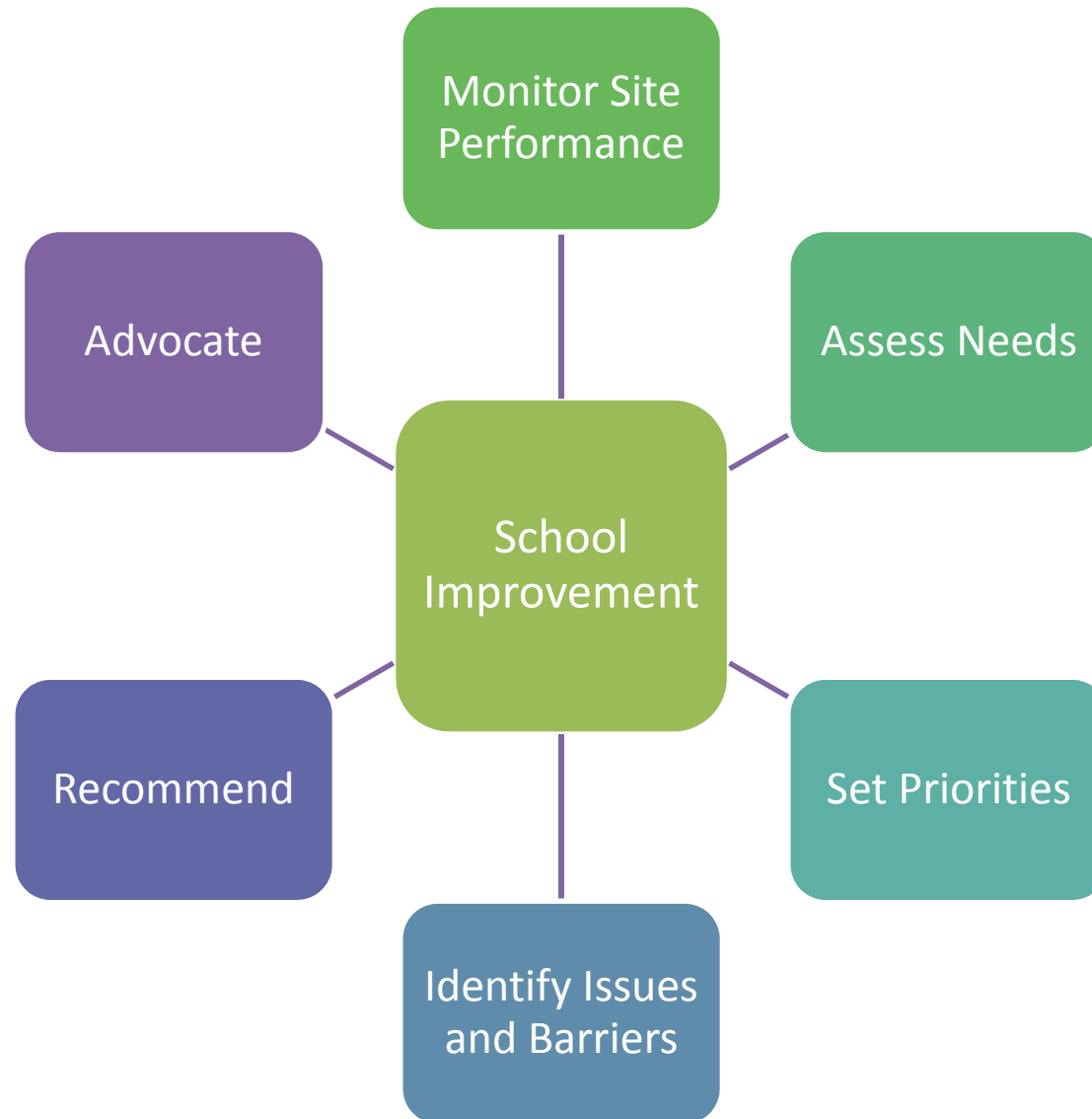
Defined Autonomy: Relationship with Schools

The superintendent provides autonomy to principals to lead their schools, but expects alignment on district goals and use of resources for professional development. ($r = 0.28$)

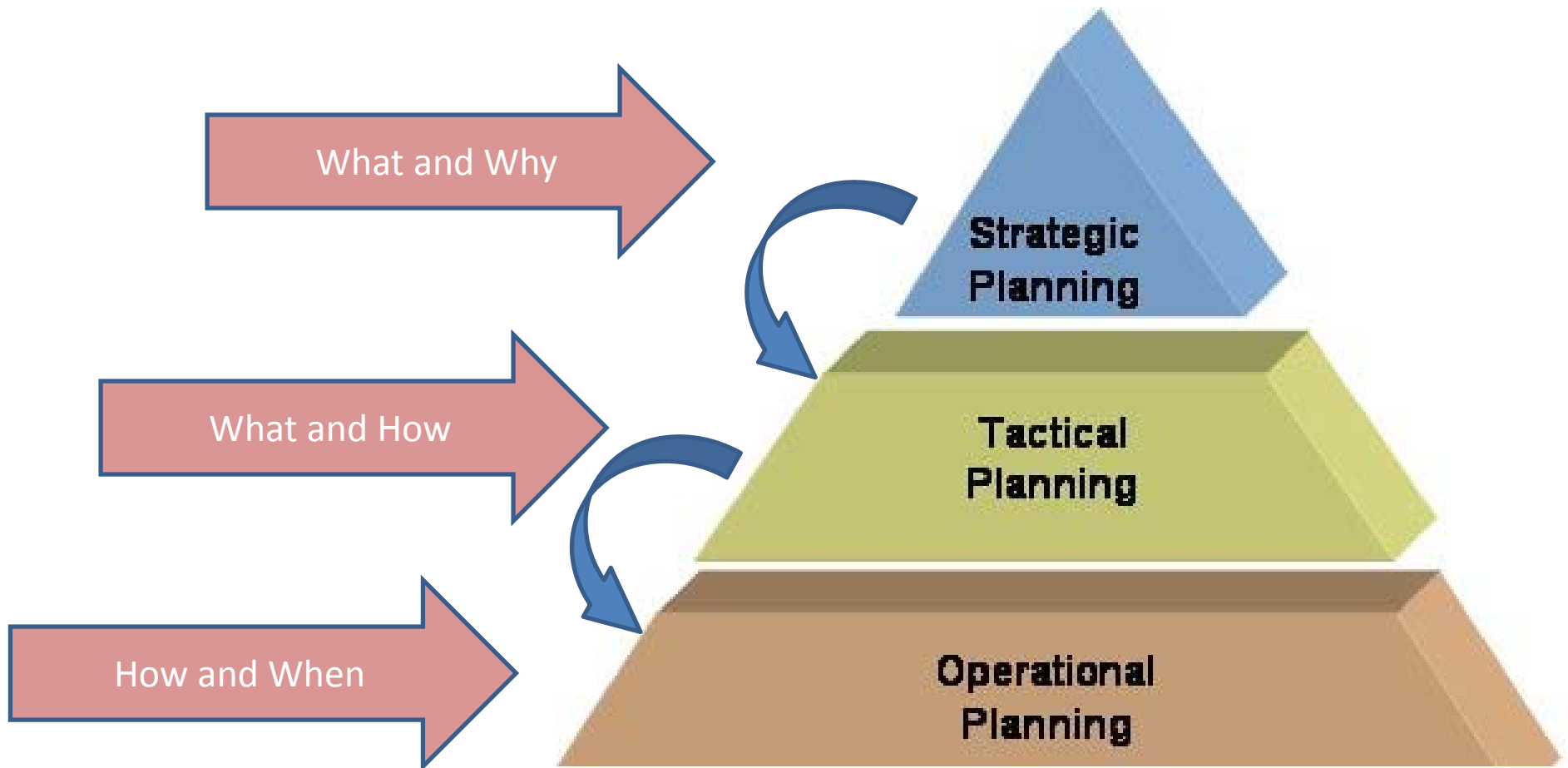
Defined Autonomy



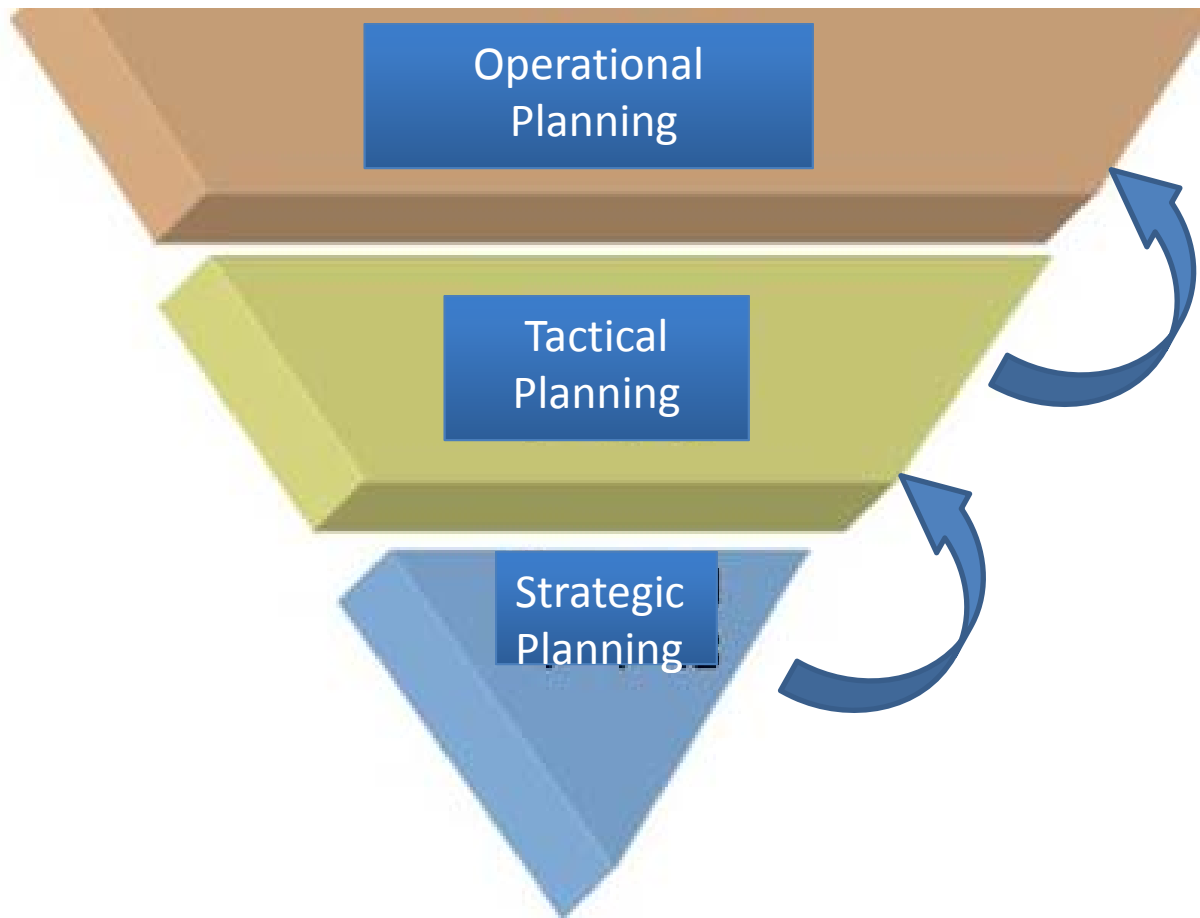
Why do Site Councils exist?



Leadership Roles



Leadership Roles



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

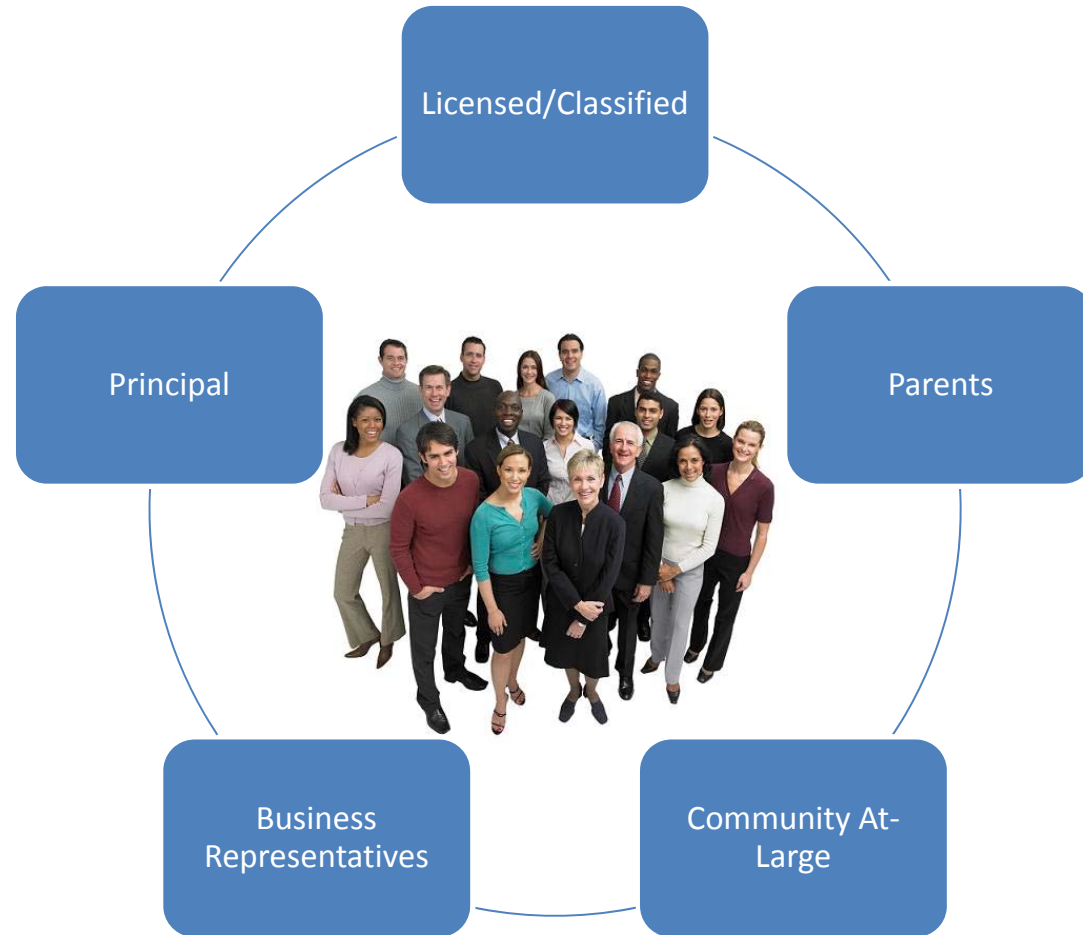


- Why do our Site Councils exist?
- How can Site Councils be a support for the educational system?
- **Share** with the group.

*Provide a culture of collaboration and service • Be a voice of public education
Improve student education outcomes*

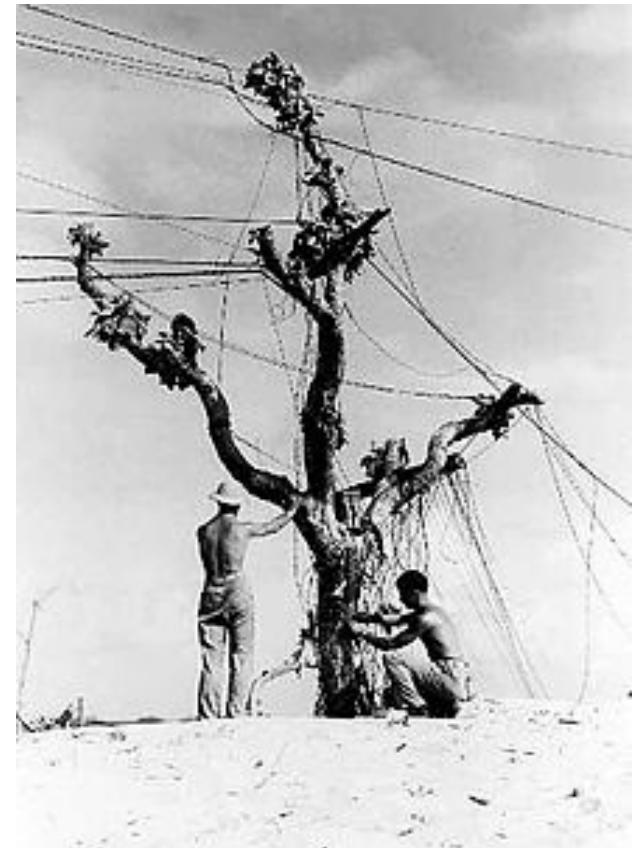


Who makes up the Site Council?



How is the Site Council connected to the School Board?

- Names submitted to board to be considered for appointment to the site council
- Board appoints members
- Make recommendations, if necessary
- Serve as a communication channel



How are meetings conducted?

- Elected chair manages meeting
- Agenda developed and adopted
- Minutes taken, approved at following meeting
- Agenda and Materials sent to members prior to meeting
- Operate under Kansas Open Meetings Act
- Should meet at a minimum quarterly

What topics should Site Council cover annually?

- By-Laws
- District and building goals
- Progress towards established goals



THINK-PAIR-SHARE



- How is the structure of Site Council described different or similar to your current council?
- Are there areas you need to address?
- **Share** with the group.

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A faded background image showing a group of students in a classroom setting. Some students are looking at papers, while others are looking towards the camera. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be clearly visible.

What does the work of a Site Council look like?

- Monitor alignment to board's vision
- Communication channel to community and board
- Monitor development of a school culture containing:
 - Rigorous curricular pathways
 - Relationships between students and staff
 - Relevance for students and their learning
 - Responsive culture to the needs of all students

What does the work of a Site Council look like?

- Review progress on Annual Measurable Objectives
- Monitor implementation of Common Core
- Review ESEA waiver impact on school
- Study changes in accreditation process
- Determine ways to engage community in education process

THINK-PAIR-SHARE



- What are the key areas of work for your building's site council to focus on to align with the district vision and direction?
- Why are these the key areas?
- **Share** with the group.

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A Site Council...

...can

- provide advice and counsel to the school in developing, implementing, and evaluating school improvement efforts
- provide ongoing support for the students and staff of the school
- make recommendations regarding budgetary matters
- assist school boards analysis of the unique environment of schools
- enhance the efficiency and maximize limited resources
- advocate for the educational needs of their community

A Site Council...

...can **not**

- be involved in personnel hiring or other matters related to personnel
- develop and administer their own surveys without board consent
- develop building policy or procedures
- purchase supplies, equipment, etc., or conduct fund raising on the schools behalf
- access personal information of students or staff
- make decisions the site council is advisory only; it can only make recommendations

To succeed, everyone has to help!

Who should be involved?

- Parents
- Students
- Site councils
- Business and employers
- Postsecondary education
- Community organizations
- Individuals

What can you do?

- Listen and learn
- Share what you know
- Participate in decisions
- Support the goals
- Support the plan

Develop Local Leadership Capacity

- Support and seek innovation
- Assist in finding efficiencies
- Engage parents and the public
- Raise awareness of challenges facing schools
- Draw attention to successes of schools

What does the work of a Site Council look like?

Advocating for Your School

Step 1 - Know the issues

Step 2 - Know your district

Step 3 - Know where you stand

Step 4 - Know the decision-makers, especially those accountable to you

Step 5 - Know how to contact decision-makers

Step 6 - Know the calendar for decision-making

Step 7 - Know how to state your case

Step 8 - Know how to reach the public

Step 9 - Know your role in the electoral process

Core Message

Public education supports freedom, prosperity, families and communities.

Educational outcomes are improving – Kansas is a national leader.



Education Outcomes Better than Ever

National Trends:

- Every major measure of educational achievement have been improving steadily for decades.

