
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5463

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators A. Smith, Bailey, Erwin, Rinehart, Owen, Pelz, Bauer, Conner and Skratek).

Read first time February 25, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to site-based councils; adding new sections to
2 chapter 28A.240 RCW; creating a new section; and making an
3 appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that in order to
6 achieve the goal of reforming the public schools, each citizen of the
7 state must accept the commitment of developing our most important
8 resource, our children. The legislature further finds that part of
9 building this commitment includes having persons in the field of
10 education form partnerships with other persons in the community. To
11 build a learning community, and develop this commitment, the
12 legislature intends:

13 (1) That school boards of directors, school administrators,
14 teachers, employee unions, and members of the community find new ways

1 of working collaboratively, changing existing policies and agreements
2 where appropriate;

3 (2) To encourage the creation of site-based councils, where
4 parents, teachers, and citizens will join to make decisions for our
5 schools; and

6 (3) To give school districts and schools broad discretion in
7 establishing their site-based councils but consistent with the
8 limitations under section 2 of this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A site-based council may be
10 established at one or more schools if the school district board of
11 directors has adopted a policy authorizing site-based councils. The
12 school district board of directors has final authority in establishing
13 the parameters and areas of involvement accorded to school site-based
14 councils.

15 (2) The policy adopted by a school district board of directors may
16 include but is not limited to:

17 (a) Procedures for forming a site-based council and official
18 recognition of the council by the district;

19 (b) Membership of the site-based council including the principal,
20 certificated and classified staff, students in secondary schools,
21 parents, and persons in the community. Existing organizations may be
22 used to form the site-based council;

23 (c) Designation of activities with which site-based councils may
24 become involved, such as: Student assessment, parent involvement, and
25 developing community schools; and

26 (d) Delegation of authority to site-based councils to adopt their
27 own bylaws and charter.

1 (3) School district boards of directors shall not delegate to site-
2 based councils the authority to make personnel decisions regarding
3 either instructional, administrative or classified staff.

4 (4) A school board shall only delegate authority over budget
5 decisions to a site-based council if the authority is clearly defined
6 in writing, if the authority is limited to a one-year period but may be
7 renewed annually with the approval of the board, and if the authority
8 of the site-based council is limited to decisions at the building
9 level.

10 (5) Each school district board of directors deciding to adopt a
11 policy authorizing site-based councils shall provide, by resolution,
12 plans for attendance policies that are consistent with the requirements
13 of any desegregation plan in order to promote stability for schools
14 with site-based councils.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If modifications to existing local
16 bargaining agreements are necessary to implement school site-based
17 councils, those modifications shall be clearly stated in the written
18 agreement between the school district board of directors and the
19 exclusive bargaining representative for district certificated
20 instructional staff.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Schools with site-based councils may
22 receive funds to provide resources for restructuring their educational
23 programs. The superintendent of public instruction shall allocate
24 funds, as are appropriated for this purpose, to school districts to
25 distribute to the schools with site-based councils.

26 (2) School districts shall submit reports about the plans and use
27 of funds to the superintendent of public instruction. The
28 superintendent of public instruction may transmit information to other

1 schools and school districts through the state clearinghouse for
2 educational information and assistance.

3 (3) The superintendent of public instruction may provide technical
4 assistance under this section to any school or school district
5 establishing or using a site-based council.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are
7 each added to chapter 28A.240 RCW.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of five hundred thousand
9 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
10 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
11 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 4 of
12 this act.