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**Site Council Project Ideas**

In the past, Site Councils have been defined as a group of parents, community partners, teachers and classified employees that work with the principal to review and evaluate school improvement plans and school budgets. As we look toward the future, Site Councils are taking a more proactive approach by being more than an advisory team but a team of leaders. In doing so, Site Councils should be more project-focused. Schools may use school data or conduct a school climate survey, for possible Site Council projects to be considered. Below are some possible Site Council project ideas:

Project Ideas:

* Site Council can recruit for new members during parent events/activities.
	+ Example: recruit new members during Open House, Parent Teacher Conferences, etc. The Site Council can set-up an informational booth during these parent events/activities and offer incentives to build public relations.
* Site Council can be a positive ambassador for the school.
	+ Example: serve on a panel to facilitate questions and answers. The Site Council can serve on a panel during a transition event and answer questions for parents.
* Site Council can research and support new initiatives for the school.
	+ Example: research and decide on a father initiative that will help increase positive male participation at the school. The Site Council can choose to support the Watch D.O.G.S. program as the school’s father initiative.
* Site Council can evaluate and offer suggestions for improving a specific area of concern at the school. (Site Councils can even evaluate itself to improve areas of concern such as recruitment, retention, overall effectiveness, etc.)
	+ Example: survey families and the community on the friendliness of the school. The Site Council can offer suggestions after evaluating completed family surveys.
* Site Council can focus on developing and maintaining community relationships.
	+ Example: schedule an “Open House” for community partners. The Site Council along with other school parent organizations can assist in planning an event that will welcome community partners at the school.
* Site Council can assess school safety concerns.
	+ Example: improve parking lot and traffic safety near school grounds. The Site Council can solicit the help of a neighborhood police officer who can offer his or her expertise on traffic safety.
* Site Council can use school data to help increase student achievement.
	+ Example: analyze state assessment data to focus on a major area of concern. The Site Council can collaborate with the Family Engagement Team to address the area of concern accordingly to parents through focus groups or a family event.
* Site Council can address school and/or district budget to educate school stakeholders.
	+ Example: review current district budget to understand how it affects school budget. The Site Council with the assistance of district representatives can assess district budget to clarify school budget to community members, staff and families.

As Site Council begins to meet and move towards project-based initiatives, it is important to include other teams, committees and organizations in the planning process. By collaborating with other teams, committees, and organizations within the school, it can be assured that all stakeholders’ ideas and expertise will be considered to achieve the best possible results. Collaboration among staff, families and community members is one of the first steps to becoming a Partnership School.