

Parent Committee – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is Parent Committee?

The Parent Committee is a decision making group made up of parents of children who are currently enrolled in the Head Start program at the campus sponsoring the meeting.

What is the purpose of Parent Committee?

The Parent Committee is established as a formal structure of shared governance at the center level and is comprised exclusively of the parents of children currently enrolled at the center level for center-based programs, per Part 1301 – Program Governance, 1301.4 Parent Committees.

How does Parent Committee affect the campus?

The Parent Committee works in partnership with key ESC-20 Head Start staff to:

- Advise staff in developing and implementing local program policies, activities and services.
- Follow the program procedure to communicate comments, ideas or concerns to Policy Council.
- Work within the guidelines established by the governing body and Policy Council to participate in the recruitment and screening of Head Start employees.
- Elect Policy Council Parent Representatives, Alternates and Community Representatives.
- Support the teaching staff by encouraging one another to volunteer and participate in parent engagement activities.
- Provide input into the Head Start Program by attending meetings and participating in Self-Assessment activities and the Health Advisory Committee.

When and where does the Parent Committee meet?

- The Head Start program has scheduled meetings every other month at the campus the child is enrolled in for attendance.
- Parents/guardians receive an announcement flier regarding the upcoming meeting.
- Light refreshments are served at the meeting.

What happens at a Parent Committee meeting?

- Each month that Parent Committee meets there is an agenda of items be made aware of or items that need approval.
- Members have an opportunity to ask questions and give their input and ideas to the agenda items being presented.
- All agenda items are topics that affect the campus hosting the meeting.
- Minutes are taken as formal record all decisions that are made and document topics that were discussed.
- Program staff and parents/guardians work together to run the meeting.
- After the meeting a parenting education class is presented using the Love & Logic curriculum.