

Quality Schools Advisory Council

Purpose and Charge

Purpose

The County Council wants to spearhead formation of a countywide Quality Schools Advisory Council (QSAC) to help the community: develop a common understanding of school issues; recommend education policy and legislative initiatives; and foster excellent learning opportunities.

Quality schools are essential to a healthy community and strong local economy. A stakeholder committee focused on schools would support community well-being, bolster and expand the business sector and economic development, and give residents a larger, more direct voice in their families' future.

Charge

Role: QSAC would represent a wide range of interests. Members would work to understand, discuss, and seek consensus on regional school issues. They would develop recommendations and identify an implementation strategy.

On all issues, members would be liaisons between constituents and the schools, representing the community as a whole. When developing recommendations, the QSAC would provide advice that reflects a broad and balanced range of community needs, interests, expectations and perspectives.

Level of involvement: Given the nature of an issue and specific public process for its resolution, the group's role will vary. Potential roles may be to:

- Regularly receive information and offer comments and thoughts;
- Receive briefings and give recommendations;
- Have members attend advisory groups on specific issues and report to the County Council for action; and
- Serve as the lead stakeholder group to review options and build community consensus on school issues.

Membership: The County Council suggests the QSAC be structured as follows:

County Council	2	Chair and one councilor
Cities	2	One from Vancouver, one from a small city
K-12 schools	9	School board members or Superintendents
Higher education	1	WSU Vancouver, Clark College
Neighborhood association	2	One from Vancouver, one from NACCC
Economic development	1	Columbia River Economic Development Council
Housing	1	e.g., Building Industry Association, Southwest Washington Association of Contractors and Builders
Realtors	1	Clark County Association of Realtors
Total	19	

Note: Each member would appoint a voting alternate.

Meetings: Initially, the QSAC would meet every other month to establish its protocols, list of issues and schedule. The longer-term goal would be to meet quarterly for a period of three (3) years.