



Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council

What is Policy Council?

Policy Council is a group of parents and community members who meet monthly to oversee the services provided to children and families. Through Policy Council, members actively share in making decisions about the Head Start program.

Who are the Policy Council Members?

At least 51% of Policy Council membership is made up of Parents of currently enrolled children, while the rest are community representatives, including past parents, representatives from local organizations, and interested community volunteers.

How can I become a Policy Council Member?

Each Head Start/Early Head Start site and Early Head Start home visitor elects parents to represent their room at Policy Council meetings. This is done at a Parent Meeting in the first two months of the school year.

Please consider this important role because parents are vital to the success of the program.

Reimbursement for mileage and childcare are provided for in person Policy Council meetings. Zoom is available when needed.



What is my Role on Policy Council?

- Attend the scheduled Policy Council meetings on the second Thursday of every month, in person or through zoom as needed.
- Listen to the needs of your classroom (or other EHS) parents and represent their interests at the Policy Council meetings.
- Report the work of Policy Council to the parents in your center or EHS socialization.
- Contact the office if you cannot attend a meeting.
- Serve on committees such as budget and fiscal review, program self-assessment, and curriculum planning.

What is the Work of Policy Council?

Policy Council works with Head Start management staff and the NMCAA Board to develop, review, and approve:

- Funding applications
- Personnel and Volunteer Policies
- Self-Assessment
- Criteria for recruitment and enrollment of children

Questions?

Feel free to call: _____
