Interested in helping to shape the future success of New Haven?



What is SBDM Council?

**S**chool **B**ased **D**ecision **M**aking Council: School councils promote shared leadership among those who are close to the students. Membership of each council includes parents, teachers, and an administrator of the school. The council has the responsibility to set school policy and make decisions outlined in statute, which should provide an environment to enhance student achievement. The council is basically the decision-making body of the school, and approves policies, budgeting, academic programming, and hiring recommendations. Council is made up of 6 members, if a minority representative is elected, which consists of: 2 parents, 3 teachers, and the principal.

Who can become a SBDM representative?

* + To be eligible to serve on the school council, parent candidates must have a student enrolled or preregistered to attend the school for the year they will be serving on the school council.
  + The candidate must be a parent, stepparent, or foster parent with whom the student resides within New Havens boundaries.
  + The candidate cannot be an employee of the school in which the parent representative vacancy occurs or be a local board member or spouse.

What type of commitment would I be making?

* The current bi-laws allow for a 2 year term so that parents have the opportunity to understand the educational processes and have a consistent impact on student achievement.
* Each council member must go through training every year. If you are new to council you must attend a 6-hour initial training, and if you have recent SBDM experience you will need to attend a 3 hour refresher / enhancement course. The courses are free to all SBDM members and training is local.
* New Haven has a regularly scheduled (*and agreed upon*) meeting 1 time a month at the school. Meetings run anywhere from 1 to 2 hours depending on the agenda items.
* Attending any specially called meetings. (*This is a rare occurrence*)

How do I become a SBDM parent representative?

* Complete the attached nomination form and return it to New Haven Elementary – Attention PTA – no later than 3:45 on Friday, April 7th.
* You will be contacted to let you know that your nomination form has been received.
* Attend the PTA General meeting on April 25th to share a little about yourself.
* Vote on April 25th or 26th.