

## About School Improvement Councils

### Key Points

- The School Improvement Council (SIC) serves as an advisory committee to a school's principal and faculty.
- Unlike PTA/Os and other voluntary school organizations, **councils are mandated by law to exist in every public school in South Carolina.**
- SICs play a key role in the education of our state's children, bringing together parents, educators and community stakeholders to work collectively to improve their local schools.
- More than 16,000 people serve on SICs in South Carolina.

### Key Functions

- **SICs work** with the school to develop and implement a five-year school improvement plan (school renewal plan).
- **SICs monitor and evaluate** success in reaching the plan's goals and objectives.
- **SICs write** an annual report to parents about the progress of the plan.
- **SICs assist** the principal in writing the narrative for the School Report Card.
- **SICs advise** on the use of school incentive awards and provide assistance as requested by the principal.

### DEADLINES

- **SIC elections**, by SC state law, must be held **by October 15.**
- **SIC membership**, by SC state law, must be reported to the **SC-SIC Member Network** **by November 15.**
- **The Report to the Parents**, by SC state law, is due to be distributed to the community **by April 30.**

## What Do School Improvement Councils Do?

- **SICs work** with the school administration to develop and implement the Five-Year School Improvement Plan (sometimes called the School Renewal Plan).
- **SICs monitor and evaluate** success in reaching the Plan's goals and objectives.
- **SICs write** the **Annual Report to the Parents** about the progress of the plan.
- **SICs assist** the principal in writing the narrative for the **School Report Card**.
- **SICs advise** on the use of school incentive awards.
- **SICs provide other assistance** as requested by the principal.

School Improvement Councils do not have any of the powers and duties reserved by the local school board.

## Why Should I Bother?

- **Because** when parents are involved in their children's education, the quality of schools improves and children do better in school.
- **Because** parents bring wisdom to the council. They have intimate knowledge about their children and access to other parents who can provide knowledge and insight.
- **Because** citizens who are NOT parents of children in the school make unique contributions to School Improvement Councils. Senior citizens, business people, members of the faith community, staff of social service agencies and others all have knowledge, experience and resources to share.
- **Because** community members who feel ownership in the school are often the best advocates for the children and the school.