



Manchester Head Start



Policy Council

Parent involvement is the key to the success of the Head Start Program.

Head Start believes parents are the first and most important teachers children have; therefore, Head Start ensures every parent has the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the program. Parents may become part of the decision-making process by serving on the program's Policy Council. The Policy Council meets monthly with the Director, his Management Team, community representatives, and other relevant staff. This group reviews program issues and concerns while planning for future activities and events. The Policy Council has input regarding the approval of all staff hiring and terminations, all budgets and proposals, and any changes that directly affect the parents and children at the center.

Parents are elected by the Center Committee (comprised of parents in each classroom) and voted in by the Policy Council to serve for a one-year term. Policy Council is comprised of a minimum of 51% current Head Start parents plus community representatives. Parent attendance is vital as the Policy Council serves a major role in the functioning of Head Start.

Policy Council meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month; however, it reserves the right to enter into "executive session" as needed. Officers are elected to the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary.