



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



December 22, 2011

Imma Canelli  
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
New Haven Public Schools  
54 Meadow Street  
New Haven, CT 06519

Dear Ms. Canelli:

The New Haven schools listed on Attachment A are required by state statute to each implement a School Governance Council (Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes). Public Act 11-135 amended the School Governance Council legislation to allow a school to adopt a model that is "similar" but not identical to the state mandated model for School Governance Councils. This letter is in response to your request to use current school planning and management teams as a model that is similar to the state mandated model.

For a model to be considered similar to the state mandated model, it must meet the following requirements:

1. A similar model must have been in place at the time the school was designated as in need of improvement or as a low-achieving school.
2. The membership of the council must conform to the list of persons/positions identified in the law (i.e., parents, teachers from each grade level or subject area, administrators, and paraprofessionals).
3. The similar model must have been in place and adopted by the school on or before July 1, 2011.

The documentation that was submitted with your request does not indicate that current committees address the criteria to be considered similar to the state mandated model and therefore do not meet the requirements of state law regarding School Governance Councils. Please see Attachment A for information regarding the analysis of each school's application material with regard to the criteria required by statute.

Therefore, the schools will be expected to implement the state required School Governance Council model. Please notify Dr. Judy Carson by January 13, 2012, of your plans and timeframe for each school to have a School Governance Council in place as required. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will require schools to periodically report on the activities of the councils.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding School Governance Councils, please contact Dr. Judy Carson at 860-807-2122 or [judy.carson@ct.gov](mailto:judy.carson@ct.gov).

Sincerely,

Cheryl Resha, Education Manager  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services  
and Adult Education

CR:jhc

cc: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner, CSDE  
Donna Aiello, Supervisor of Staff and Organization Development, New Haven Public Schools  
Judy Carson, Program Manager, School-Family-Community Partnerships, CSDE

**Attachment A**  
**New Haven Schools Applying for “Similar” School Governance Council Model**

SCHOOL/DISTRICT		DURATION		MEMBERSHIP				CURRENT USE	“SIMILAR” MODEL?	
		DATE IDENTIFIED	EVIDENCE	TEACHERS FROM EACH GRADE LEVEL	TEACHERS FROM ALL SUBJECTS	NUMBER OF PARENTS (% OF MEMBERSHIP)	ADMIN	PARA		EVIDENCE
				OR						
Barnard	New Haven	2004	No	No	No	2 (12%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Beecher	New Haven	2004	No	No	No	5 (25%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Clinton Avenue	New Haven	2004	Yes	No	No	1 (6%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
John Martinez	New Haven	2004	No	No	No	4 (16%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
John C. Daniels	New Haven	Missing	No	No	NA	1 (8%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Troup	New Haven	2008	No	No	NA	1 (5%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Fair Haven	New Haven	2002	No	No	No	1 (5%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Jepson	New Haven	2006	No	No	NA	10 (45%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Bassett	New Haven	2004	No	No	No	5 (22%)	Yes	Yes	No	No
Truman	New Haven	7 years	Yes	No	NA	4 (16%)	Yes	No	No	No
Conte West Hills	New Haven	2008	Yes	No	No	4 (17%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Wexler Grant	New Haven	2005	Yes	No	No	4 (18%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Columbus Family Academy	New Haven	2005	No	No	No	4 (29%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Bishop Woods	New Haven	2006	No	No	No	2 (11%)	No	No	Yes	No
East Rock Magnet	New Haven	2006	Yes	Yes	NA	1 (7%)	Yes	No	Yes	No

SCHOOL/DISTRICT		DURATION		MEMBERSHIP					CURRENT USE EVIDENCE	"SIMILAR" MODEL?
				TEACHERS FROM EACH GRADE LEVEL	TEACHERS FROM ALL SUBJECTS	NUMBER OF PARENTS (% OF MEMBERSHIP)	ADMIN	PARA		
		DATE IDENTIFIED	EVIDENCE	OR						
Celentano	New Haven	2006	No	No	NA	1 (8%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Micro Society	New Haven	2007	No	No	NA	2 (15%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
High School in the Community	New Haven	2007	Yes	NA	No	7 (39%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Hyde	New Haven	2005	No	NA	No	3 (30%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
New Haven Academy	New Haven	2005	No	NA	No	6 (40%)	Yes	No	No	No
Hill Central	New Haven	2001	Yes	Yes	NA	4 (18%)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Brennan Rogers	New Haven	2008	No	Yes	NA	6 (29%)	Yes	Yes	No	No
Wilbur Cross	New Haven	2009	No	NA	No	6 (43%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No