**Policy Council**

Are you interested in helping make program-wide decisions?

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What is Policy Council?

Policy Council is a formal means for parents to be involved in the program’s planning and decision making. Policy Council is a great opportunity to learn more about the program.

Each classroom or group elects one of their parents to be their Policy Council member. Members serve for one year: from October through September.

Policy Council meets monthly at a location (usually the Pro Action building in Bath) at a time determined by the group.

Policy Council also has community members: persons from the community with knowledge of early childhood development and community resources which benefit young children.

As a Policy Council member you will:

- Receive information and program updates.
- Review, advise and participate in planning
  - program goals / objectives
  - policies and procedures
  - curriculum development
  - program funding proposals
- Participate in the staff hiring process
- Participate in program monitoring
- Share ideas and information about activities going on within classrooms

Members may receive reimbursement for reasonable child care and/or transportation costs connected with Policy Council participation.

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- **You do not need any prior knowledge or experience to serve on Policy Council. Training will be provided as needed.**
- **If you are interested in being a Policy Council member, please contact a HS/EHS staff member.**
- **Policy Council meetings are open to all enrolled parents/guardians, even if you are not the elected representative.**
- **Talk with your Resource Advocate or Home Visitor if you are interested in becoming a Policy Council representative.**

Thoughts from parents who have served as Policy Council members:

- "Parents are a child’s first teacher. Policy Council lets you continue a working relationship with the program."
- "I wanted to be a part of my child’s education, in the classroom and behind the scenes."
- "If you are actively involved, you are helping to shape the person you want your child to be tomorrow."
- "Policy Council gives you a voice as a parent, and as a parent you know your child best".