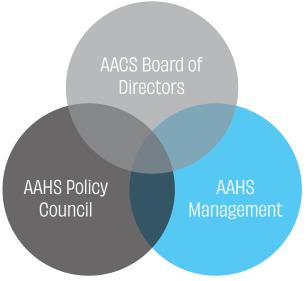


#### **Program Governance**



Work together with the Board of Directors and management staff to ensure high-quality services that lead to positive outcomes for children, families and communities.

Effective program governance = the right structure, the right people and the right practices.

#### What is Policy Council?

Policy Council is a group of parents and community members elected by the Parent Committee. It is responsible for the direction and implementation of the Head Start program.

Members receive, review, and approve/disapprove regular information regarding:

- Program planning
- Policies and procedures
- Head Start operations

Parent and community advocacy for each local area and program option.

#### Opportunities:

- Be an active part of the decision-making process
- Strengthen your skills in communication, compromise and Parliamentary Procedure
- Attend outside training events
- Serve up to 5 years
- Learn important aspects of the program that may lead to employment – we have several staff who are former AAHS Policy Council members!!

#### Expand your role!

Run for an office (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Parliamentarian) or join any of the following committees:

- Bylaws
- · Child Development and Curriculum
- Family Services Advisory
- Grievance
- · Health Services Advisory
- Nominating
- Personnel
- Planning and Finance

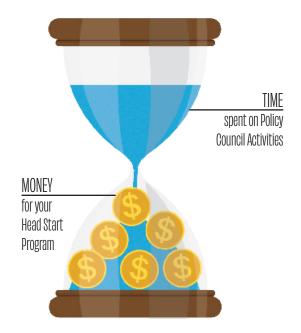
#### Be an Ambassador

Policy Council members are ambassadors as they serve as spokespeople for the Head Start program. They tell the story of how the program makes a difference in the lives of children, families, and the community.

"Being a part of the Policy Council made me feel like my voice was truly heard as a parent, all while getting to socialize, travel, and form new friendships along the way." ~ Azlin Flener, AAHS Resource Assistant (Former Policy Council Member)



#### Your Time is Valuable!



#### What if I am Elected?

### Don't worry! Training is provided including a two-day retreat!

- The membership year runs from October thru September.
- Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December, February, April and July). Lunch is provided after each meeting.

#### Run for Election Today!

Submit the PC Candidate Questionnaire to your Family Advocate to add your name to the ballot. Forms may be requested by contacting your Family Advocate.



#### Note

No AACS staff (or members of their immediate families) may serve on the AAHS Policy Council, except parents who occasionally substitute for regular Head Start or Early Head Start staff.

Parent members may receive mileage and/or child care reimbursement when necessary for participation.



## WHY POLICY COUNCIL?



# YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Policy Council members provide leadership and help shape the future of the Head Start program.