

**ARTICLE SEVENTEEN
FACULTY COUNCILS**

A. **Establishment:** A council composed of bargaining unit members shall be established in each school. Bargaining unit members who are assigned to a work location other than a school may also form a council provided that at least three (3) members are assigned to the location. The Council may request and shall be granted a meeting with the affected principal at any time during the school year on a mutually agreeable date and time.

B. **Purpose:** The purpose of the Council is to offer input from the faculty to the principal concerning any matters pertaining to the operation of the educational program of the school. However, pending grievances may not be discussed. Recommendations of the Council shall be given full consideration by the principal.

School Budget: In order to provide appropriate input, the BTU steward shall be provided a complete copy of his/her school's budget. Recommendations of the Council shall be given full consideration by the principal.

C. **Composition of the Faculty Council shall be as follows:** In addition to the designated BTU steward, one-half (1/2) of the Council shall be composed of members of the bargaining unit designated by the union and one-half (1/2) of the Council shall be composed of members of the faculty elected by the faculty. Faculty Councils shall be established within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this contract. The number of members shall be as follows:

1. Elem. Schools, Exceptional & Alternative Educ. Ctrs. = 5
2. Middle Schools = 7
3. High Schools and Technical Centers = 11

The composition of the Council may differ from the one listed above by mutual agreement between the principal and a majority of bargaining unit members at each school. Schools that choose a different method for selection and composition of the Council shall report their method to the Board's Department for Employee Relations, who shall in turn notify the BTU.

D. **Length of Office:** The term of office for members of the Council shall be for one (1) school year.

- E. **Meetings:** Faculty Councils are authorized to meet as often as necessary for the purpose of considering recommendations to be presented to the principal. Upon notification by the BTU designated steward that an election is necessary, the principal shall, in a timely manner, call a faculty meeting for this purpose. The Council shall elect a chairperson.