



Break Free CCSD is a grass roots effort made up of concerned parents, educators and community members looking to build a better education system for Clark County's kids. As Clark County School District is reorganized under Assembly Bill 394 we have come up with the following recommendations we would like the Technical Advisory Committee to consider. In our conversations with parents as well as through surveying we have found six main objectives parents are looking to achieve with this reorganization.

1. Return control of schools to their immediate neighborhoods and invested community members. Neighborhood schools thrive when decision making is placed in the hands of parents and local community members. Break Free CCSD is for small, locally controlled precincts where neighborhoods and especially parents will have a voice in school decision making. The empowerment school proposal seems like the perfect vehicle to achieve this objective.
2. Ensure weighted, per pupil funding for all students. We want dollars to flow directly to students according to each learner's specific needs. Break Free CCSD wants to ensure that every dollar allocated to a student's education follows that student to his/her school where it can have the most direct and appropriate impact. We believe that weighted, per pupil funding is the most direct and sensible way to achieve this.

3. As we are looking at School Advisory Boards under the empowerment model we think it is essential for parents and teachers to be included as integral members of these boards. In order to increase parent engagement, which is a proven predictor of academic success, families must feel empowered and heard by their neighborhood schools. School Advisory Boards must include the people closest to the students, namely parents and classroom teachers.
4. Break Free CCSD believes that schools and their advisory boards should be in charge of the majority of decision making at their specific schools, including scheduling, personnel decisions, purchasing of supplies, programs and services without having to go through a district chain of command. We are also in favor of parents and teachers having a place at the table when it comes to principal selection and dismissal.
5. We believe that school budgets should be transparent and available to teachers, parents and students. We believe this provides both a sense of ownership among all stakeholders and also acts as an informal auditing measure to make sure funds are spent properly and effectively at the school site.
6. We are **STRONGLY** in favor of capping the central office's spending at a specific percentage of the overall budget. Bureaucracy has a tendency to grow and the only quick and effective way to prevent recentralization after the reorganization would be to establish a cap on what the central office can keep at the district level. This ensures that the majority of funds will make their way to schools and students where they belong. We would propose that the district be able to keep no more than 10% of education funds at the central office level.

Break Free CCSD and the parents we represent are excited about the prospects of empowerment and local school control for parents and students. We believe that the way to truly change the lives of children through education in Clark County is to place the initiative and dollars in the hands of the people who are most invested in them. Local school empowerment is the most efficient and effective way to do this. We appreciate the committee taking the time to review and seriously consider the wants and wishes of parents in this process.