



TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

DISTRICT RESISTANCE OR DELAYS

Problem: District claims they don't have to establish council. **Solution:** Reference Texas Education Code Section 33.025(b) - "shall establish" is mandatory language. Consider contacting [Texas Citizens Defending Freedom](https://www.texascitizensdefendingfreedom.com) for guidance.

Problem: District delays establishing council after receiving petition. **Solution:** While SB 13 doesn't specify exact timelines, the mandatory "shall establish" language requires prompt action. Attend board meetings, speak during public comment, document delays, and consider contacting [Texas Citizens Defending Freedom](https://www.texascitizensdefendingfreedom.com) if district fails to act in good faith.

Problem: District claims signatures are invalid. **Solution:** Ensure all signers are current parents, provide student enrollment verification if requested, collect extra signatures as buffer.

SIGNATURE COLLECTION CHALLENGES

Problem: Parents reluctant to sign due to political concerns. **Solution:** Emphasize parental rights and local control rather than specific political positions. Focus on transparency and community input.

Problem: Difficulty reaching 50 signatures. **Solution:** Expand collection locations, use digital outreach, recruit additional volunteers, extend collection timeline.

Problem: Parents don't understand the law or process. **Solution:** Create simple information sheets, hold informal information meetings, use social media to educate community.



POST-ESTABLISHMENT ISSUES

Problem: Board appoints non-representative council members. **Solution:** Apply for positions yourself, encourage other petition signers to apply, attend appointment meetings to advocate for appropriate selections. File a grievance with the district and contact [Texas Citizens Defending Freedom](https://www.texascitizensdefendingfreedom.com).

Problem: Council meetings poorly attended or ineffective. **Solution:** Promote meetings through parent networks, prepare agenda items in advance, maintain focus on council's advisory role.

Problem: District ignores council recommendations. **Solution:** Document all recommendations and board responses, attend board meetings to advocate, use transparency requirements to highlight non-compliance.

LEGAL AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

Problem: Uncertainty about council authority and limitations. **Solution:** Review complete text of SB 13, consult with other established councils, contact [Texas Citizens Defending Freedom](https://www.texascitizensdefendingfreedom.com) for guidance.

Problem: Conflicts between council members on material decisions. **Solution:** Establish clear evaluation criteria, focus on legal standards rather than personal preferences, seek consensus through discussion.

Problem: Community backlash or controversy. **Solution:** Maintain focus on legal requirements and parental rights, emphasize transparent process, document all decisions with clear rationales.