1. A community college council is established consisting of six members. Membership of the council shall be as follows:

   a. The three members of the state board of education who have knowledge of issues and concerns affecting the community college system as provided in section 256.3.
   b. An additional member of the state board of education appointed annually by the president of the state board of education.
   c. A community college president appointed by an association which represents the largest number of community college presidents in the state.
   d. A community college trustee appointed by an association which represents the largest number of community college trustees in the state.

2. The non-board members shall serve staggered terms of three years beginning on May 1 of the year of appointment. Vacancies on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A person appointed to fill a vacancy shall commence service on the date of appointment and shall serve only for the unexpired portion of the term.

3. The council shall assist the state board of education with substantial issues which are directly related to the community college system. The state board shall refer all substantial issues directly related to the community college system to the council. The council shall formulate recommendations on each issue referred to it by the state board and shall submit the recommendations to the state board within any specified time periods.