

*The School Council must align with the Multi-Year Strategic Plan, guided by Equity, our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, and our values: Belong, Achieve, Thrive, and Revitalize.*

### **Primary Purpose of a School Council**

The purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. O. Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (1).

A school council's primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations in accordance with this Regulation to the principal of the school and the board that established the council. O. Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (2).

### **Selection of Council Members**

Nomination and election process of members by school community

All members elect executive

Representatives should reflect the school community

School Council Roles

The executive: Chair' Co-Chair, or Vice-chair, Treasurer, Secretary

Executive and membership can vote

### **School Council Responsibilities**

- Advise the Principal and the Board
- Communication with Parents/Caregivers and the Community
- Participate in Developing and Reviewing Policies
- Support Student Learning and School Improvement
- Fundraising Activities
- Financial Responsibility
- Prepare an Annual Financial Report

### **Fostering Communication**

- Meetings, newsletters, social media, in-person talks

2-way communication and mechanism tools (ie online and anonymous feedback)

- Continuous timely information sharing and feedback

Record keeping

### **Promoting Inclusivity**

- Developing skills and knowledge
- Encouraging diverse group engagement and participation

### **Awareness and Responsiveness**

- School council members' awareness of bias and stereotypes
- Commitment to anti-hate, anti-racism, and anti-indigenous initiatives

## **Addressing Concerns and receiving feedback by providing safe spaces for dialogue**

- Open discussion platform – Listening circles
- Liaison with administration
- Participation in or Initiating policies and/or programs

## **Specific Goals**

Academic performance

- School culture (welcoming)
- Parent and community engagement
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Fundraising for specific school community goals, initiatives and or events

## **Meeting Frequency and Topics**

Reg. 612 advises a minimum of 4 meetings per year however an effective council requires 6 or more.

Regular monthly meetings at varying times (virtual and in-person meetings)

Topics cover policy updates, school concerns and/or initiatives, upcoming events, training and community feedback.

## **Contribution to a Positive School Environment**

Shared vision

Advocating for equity and respect

Cultural diversity events

Celebration and humour

Lifelong learning

Anti-bullying initiatives

Supporting marginalized groups\*

\*Indigenous people, immigrants, refugees, individuals who identify as members of ethno-cultural, Black and other racialized populations, LGBTQ2S people, persons with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, children and youth in care

## **Ways to be involved in/or with School Council**

Recruitment/Outreach

Meeting attendance

Joining and/or supporting working groups

Volunteering

Providing feedback

### **School Council Budgets**

School Council funds are located on hour School's budget line GL41500

\$1.25 per student from TDSB (min. \$300, Max \$1000)

To be used for council operations

\$500 from Ministry

To be used for parent/caregiver outreach

- Council members must decide on expenditures before fundraising.

### **Transparent Accountable and Inclusive**

Does the community know where their money will go?

Does treasured report regularly?

Do all students benefit?

### **Budget Committee**

Review needs and advise on funds needed.

### **Good to know**

[Tools & Resources](#)