

PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCILS

Background

Pursuant to the School Act, the District supports the establishment of a parents' advisory council at each school. A school's parent advisory council is a separate entity and is not governed by the school district or its Board of Education.

Procedures

1. The following objectives are general guidelines for parent advisory councils:
 - 1.1 To promote and sustain positive two-way communication between the school, the home and the school's stakeholders.
 - 1.2 To share the many valuable activities, achievements, events, processes, products, aims and plans of the school with its stakeholders.
 - 1.3 To provide the Principal and the school staff with a school/community perspective on issues.
 - 1.4 Through undertaking 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3:
 - 1.4.1 to seek increased public support for the school;
 - 1.4.2 to establish better understanding of aims and objectives of the school;
 - 1.4.3 to develop increased recognition of achievements of students and staff;
 - 1.4.4 to develop meaningful and worthwhile involvement of the school's stakeholders;
 - 1.4.5 to improve staff and student morale through increased knowledge, involvement, awareness, and support by the school community publics.
2. The group is to meet a minimum of three to five times per year.
3. The Principal or Vice-principal shall participate in the group and attend the group's meetings.
4. At the secondary school level, students (at the discretion of the group) may have representation on the council.
5. In addition to such functions as are normally undertaken by a parent advisory council, the group could review and discuss:
 - 5.1 school policy
 - 5.2 procedures

5.3 programs

5.4 facilities

5.5 parent/community education

and is also be involved in:

5.6 communicating with the community at large

5.7 developing involvement of the various stakeholders referred to in Objectives and may make recommendations to the Principal and staff in the above areas.

6. The group may not discuss individual school personnel, individual students, or individual parents.
7. The group is to organize itself in the way that it sees as most functional, but it must provide for its continuity and viability.
8. The school/community council may affiliate with peer bodies such as the District Parents' Advisory Councils (DPAC), B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC), or any other peer body which fosters the objectives of public school education.
9. The District will subscribe each year to an associate membership in the B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC).
10. Parent advisory councils are encouraged to follow best practices as prescribed by DPAC and the BCCPAC.
11. If conducting fundraising activities, parent advisory councils should consult AP 197.

Reference: Section 8, School Act

Last revised: November 2016