

1002.4 School Councils

Policy

The Board shall support individual School Councils which function in accordance with the School Act, Alberta Education Regulations and the following regulations. Further, the Board shall establish and support a Division School Council for the purpose of providing a forum for the exchange of information and discussion of issues of mutual interest to School Councils.

Regulations

1. Each school shall have a School Council unless exempted by the Minister. The School Council must be established in accordance with the School Council regulations.
2. School Councils shall deal with matters of general concern to the school community.
 - 2.1. The school community consists of:
 - 2.1.1. students enrolled in the school and their parents/guardians;
 - 2.1.2. children enrolled in an early childhood services program at the school and their parents/guardians;
 - 2.1.3. the school staff; and
 - 2.1.4. other persons who have an interest in the school.
3. The School Council shall be accountable to the school community.
 - 3.1. The Board recommends that each School Council establish a schedule of meetings for members of the school community.
 - 3.2. The Board recommends that each School Council develop a procedure for regularly reporting to the school community.
4. School Council actions shall be consistent with Division policy and regulations.
5. A School Council may, at its discretion,
 - 5.1. advise the principal and Board respecting any matter relating to the school;
 - 5.2. perform any duty or function delegated to it by the Board;
 - 5.3. consult with the principal to ensure that students in the school have the opportunity to meet the standards of education set by the Minister;
 - 5.4. consult with the principal to ensure that the fiscal management of the school is in accordance with the requirements of the Board and the Superintendent; and
 - 5.5. take any actions authorized under the School Council regulations.

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6. School Councils are encouraged to make provision for the in-service training of new and executive members.
7. School Councils should have procedures for dealing with internal disputes.
8. The Board shall establish a process to deal with disputes between the principal and School Council. See Procedure 1002.4.
9. Principals shall provide the School Council with an opportunity to provide advice on the development of the school's:
 - 9.1. mission/vision/philosophy;
 - 9.2. policies;
 - 9.3. Annual Education Plan/Annual Results Report; and
 - 9.4. budget.
10. A School Council may receive donations on behalf of a board but no School Council shall raise funds or otherwise solicit donations in any manner that would require a gaming licence under the *Gaming and Liquor Act*.
 - 10.1. A School Council must handle and report all money it receives, if any, in accordance with applicable policies and procedures of the Board (see forms 1002.4.2 and 1002.4.3).
11. The Board and Executive Council liaisons assigned to the school may be invited to attend School Council meetings.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

Alberta School Act:	22
District Policies:	600.2 School-Based Decision Making, 1003.1 Channels of Communication and Disputes Resolution, 1003.2 Partnerships and Sponsorships
District Procedures:	1002.4 School Councils
Other:	Planning Resources for School Administrators, School Councils Regulation, Liquor and Gaming Act of Alberta