

The Role of School Council

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EDEN
HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome!

Thank you for your support of our students,
and the school

EDDEN
HIGH SCHOOL

Purpose of School Council

- Ontario Regulation 612/00 under the Education Act mandates the roles and responsibilities of school councils
- Help improve student achievement by sharing ideas and working with others
- Provide advice to your school and school board
- Express your opinions on decisions that affect the school
- Stay informed about what's happening at the school
- Help keep our education system accountable to parents and families

Composition - Overview

- Chair or co-chairs
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Parent members
- Principal (non-voting)
- Teacher rep
- Non-teacher rep
- Up to 2 community reps
- Student council rep

Composition - cont'd

- A number of voting members as defined by the council's by-laws and board policy (25 total, 7-19 parent members)
- DSBN employees cannot be the chair/co-chair
- DSBN employees are not eligible to be community-based members, or parent members, unless they do not work at Eden, and reasonable steps are taken to inform voters of this fact
- DSBN Trustees cannot be members of council
- members serve for the duration of the school year

Meetings

- Four (4) meetings, Monday nights
- Dates are set by the principal
- There must be a majority of members present
- Meetings are open to the public, and at the school
- Written notice of meetings must be given to all parents/guardians of the school's students (parent communication and school site)

Constitution

School Councils may develop a Constitution that aligns with Board policy

Eden School Council has a recently revised Constitution

Subcommittees

- Council can establish committees
- Each committee must have at least one parent member
- You do not need to be a voting member to be on a committee
- For example - Fundraising Committee - Sausage, Cobs Bread, etc.

Minutes and Financial Records

Records of both minutes and financial transactions must be kept, and be available at the school for four (4) years

Annual Report

- School council must submit a report to the principal each year on its activities, including a summary of fundraising activities
- The report must be shared with parents/guardians of students at the school

Effective School Councils

- Focus on student learning and the best interests of all students
- Support schools in improving student achievement
- Have a clear grasp of the role of school councils and their mandate
- Have a clear and consistent process
- Communicate effectively

Next Steps. . . .

- Applications for Council , along with a short bio are due to Mrs. Orr's email (Sandra.orr@dsbn.org), by this Friday, September 25th
- Bios will be made available on Monday, September 28th on the School Council webpage for you to review prior to the next
- First official meeting will be on Monday, October 5th
- This meeting will include elections of the executive and of voting members as part of the agenda

Sample Bio

- **A sentence or two about yourself** - I have two children at Eden, a Grade 10 son and Grade 9 daughter who are both keen musicians and artists. I trained and taught as an elementary school teacher and I believe in teaching children how to think, not what to think.
- **Why do you want to be on the school council?** - I want to have a closer look at what is happening at my daughters' school, and gain insight into how I can help. I enjoy being part of the decision making processes that occur on council. I also enjoy volunteering to help with fundraising, special events and any other practical tasks that need to be done. I've been an active member of council in previous years.