The Role of School Council

Mat Miller Principal - Eden High School



Welcome!

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

Why are we here?

- -we care about Eden High School and all of its students and staff
- -we want to see every student succeed
- -we want to learn more about what is going on at school
- -we want to give feedback and share our voice around school and school events

Mandate

-Ontario Regulation 612/00 under the Education Act outlines the roles and responsibilities of school councils

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.

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.

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
- -athletic 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 or 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
- -can have a chair, or co-chairs
- -can have other officers, as designated by the council

Meetings

- -minimum of four (4) meetings
- -dates are set by the principal
- -elections and the first meeting must be held within the first 35 days of the school year
- -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

Subcommittees

- -council can establish committees
- -each committee must have at least one parent member
- -for example Sausage Fundraising Committee

Constitution

School Councils may develop a Constitution that aligns with Board policy, but do not have to

Eden School Council has a recently revised Constitution

Minutes and Financial Records

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

Fundraising

- -a School Council may engage in fundraising in accordance with DSBN policy
- -a strong past practice of the Eden School Council Sausages
- -a Fundraising leader in training is needed to work with Barb Stiver and Karen Cerca to organize coordinate the Sausage sales this is time sensitive

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....

- -Next meeting will be on Monday, September 29th
- -The meeting will begin with elections of the executive and of voting members, and then proceed through the agenda
- -Applications for Council are available here, and will be sent out to the school community - these are due to the main office, or Mr. Miller's email, by Monday September 22nd