

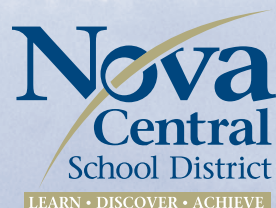
What Training is Available for School Councils?

The school principal can contact the Senior Education Officer (Programs) assigned to your school to arrange an orientation session or a workshop on a specific topic. Support, information and training for school council members are just a phone call away!

For additional information, check out School Council Handbook at:
<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/publications/k12/index.html>

For a copy of the Nova Central School Board's approved Board-School Council Communications Protocol, go to:
http://www.ncsd.ca/novacentral/schoolcouncil_resources.asp

For the link to the NL Federation of School Councils go to:
<http://www.nlfsc.ca/>



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Get involved with your school council



Learn - Discover - Achieve

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way."

John C. Maxwell

What are School Councils?

Parent and community support are vital to a well-functioning and successful school. School councils are formalized structures that facilitate communication and cooperation among the principal, parents, teachers, community representatives and students (in schools with senior high grades). They focus on enhancing the quality of school programs and increasing the level of student achievement. School councils are established in accordance with the Newfoundland and Labrador Schools Act, 1997.

Individual schools hold elections for their councils but members can also be appointed when necessary. A council is established annually and consists of 8-15 members. Each council elects a chairperson, who is normally a parent or community representative, and meets regularly.

School councils are accountable to their school and to the school community. They are also accountable to the relevant school board and are responsible for following the bylaws of their board.

What do school councils do?

School councils are responsible for doing what is in the best interest of the school and of all students collectively. They can assist with the development and implementation of policies, practices and activities which help to improve the teaching and learning environment, but are not responsible for the direct management of the school. That is the role of the school principal.

Assessment and Planning

The results for Criterion Reference Tests (CRTs) and public exams for each school are available to the school community and the public on an annual basis. Over the course of the school year, council members can review the results for their school and work with school administration to identify ways to improve student achievement.

Community Relations

School councils are an important link between schools and parents. They have a key role to play in reaching out to all parents and getting more of them involved and active in their school.

Fundraising

School-based fundraising supports many extra-curricular activities. School councils review school fundraising plans and ensure that they are conducted in a manner consistent with district and school policies.

Policy Development

School councils have an opportunity to provide input on school policies and may also be consulted in the development of district-wide policies.

School Board Consultations

School council chairpersons have an opportunity to meet annually with the Director of Education and local trustees to identify issues of concern and to receive updates on matters like the Board's Strategic Plan.

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