

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting is held within 30 days of the start of the school year for the main purpose of electing voting school council members.

It is an opportunity to engage parents who may consider nominating themselves to be elected to the school council. A sample agenda may include:

Principal and Chair welcome

Presentation on the Role of the School Council

Previous Chair presents report on work done by the council in the last school year.

Previous Treasurer presents the annual financial statement from the last school year.

Speaker – choose a teacher or speaker on a topic that is relevant to the school community

Election Committee begins the election procedures. (the election committee chair must not be running for a voting position.)

Principals congratulate new council members.

PARENTS ENGAGED IN EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and engage parents in their children's education process to increase academic achievement.

To provide resources and skill building opportunities for parents, guardians and school council members in support of children's education in Ontario.

To implement a succession plan to have continuity in the school community to engage parents and the community.

To provide resources to parents to assist them in engaging and supporting their child's learning resulting in increased student achievement.



Parents

ENGAGED IN EDUCATION

 @parentengagcons

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SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PRODUCED BY:

PARENTS ENGAGED

IN EDUCATION



1. Is it possible to conduct the school council election at the first meeting of the council each year?

School council elections must be held in accordance with Reg. 612 and is a meeting specifically to elect council members. Separate minutes must be kept for this meeting.

2. Are council executive elected at the Annual General Meeting?

No, the general election is to establish council members. Many school councils may decide to have an official first meeting of the council immediately following the elections and elect their officers at this meeting.

3. We have operated with only a couple of members for years, is there really a need to increase the number of members?

While it may seem easier to operate with a small group, there are many reasons to work to increase participation on your council, including:

- It is valuable when making decisions to have the input of more of the school community, especially in the area of spending money raised in the school.
- It makes the council less about personal opinions and issues.

- It changes perception that the council is a "club" for a select few.

- It addresses concern that the council is basically the Principal and a couple of parents who are "friends" of theirs.

- More is accomplished when there are more people to take on the work.

- Larger councils demonstrate that parents are valued partners and welcomed at the school.

- If the school faces challenges/changes that will affect the parents through their children i.e., additions, school move, closure, etc. having a large parent base that supports the administration is an asset.

4. Is it beneficial to conduct the AGM immediately in the new school year?

It is may be preferable to hold the AGM later in the month of September as it gives the Principal and school council members a chance to encourage new parents to participate in the elections.

REGULATION 612

SECTION 4

ELECTION OF PARENT MEMBERS

(1) A person is qualified to be a parent member of a school council if he or she is a parent of a pupil who is enrolled in the school.

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person is not qualified to be a parent

member of a school council if, (a) he or she is employed at the school; or (b) he or she is not employed at the school but is employed elsewhere by the board that established the council, unless he or she takes reasonable steps to inform people qualified to vote in the election of parent members of that employment.

(3) A person is qualified to vote in an election of parent members of a school council if he or she is a parent of a pupil who is enrolled in the school.

(4) An election of parent members of a school council shall be held during the first 30 days

of each school year, on a date that is fixed by the chair or co-

chairs of the school council after consulting with the principal of the school.

(5) Despite subsection (4), if a new school is established, the first election of parent members to

the school council shall be held during the first 30 days of the school year, on a date that is fixed by the board that established the school council.

(6) The principal of a school shall, at least 14 days before the date of

the election of parent members, on behalf of the school council, give written notice of the date, time and location of the election to every parent of a pupil who, on the date the notice is given, is enrolled in the school.

(7) The notice required by subsection (6) may be given by, (a) giving

the notice to the parent's child for delivery to his or her parent; and (b) posting the notice in the school in a location that is accessible to parents.

(8) The election of parent members shall be by secret ballot.

