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Honour - Persist - Succeed

School Board and the P & C... what is the difference?

Essentially these two groups have a common goal to support and guide the school in its core business of providing positive learning outcomes for all students at the school.

The Table below shows information about each group's main purpose, while the Flow Chart on the back of the page shows how parents and community members can access the School Board to have certain types of issues discussed and actioned.

School Board

1. Work within the Department of Education's relevant legislation and regulations.
2. Contribute to the School Delivery and Performance Agreement and the Business Plan. (These documents summarise what the school wants to achieve in the future and how it plans to get there; the agreement will be signed off by the chair of the Board, Principal and Director General).
3. Notes the annual budget (the budget summarises the income received annually from the Department of Education and other sources and planned expenditure, including salaries)
4. Assist with the formulation of Codes of Conduct (guiding principles designed to influence decisions and actions that the school takes).
5. Review the performance of the school.
6. Create interest in the school within and across the community.
7. Assist with principal selection when a vacancy arises (the chair of the School Board can be a member of the selection panel).
8. Approve fees, charges, contributions and items of personal use (booklists).
9. Approve extra cost optional components of programs.
10. Approve arrangements for sponsorship and advertising.
11. Liaise with other committees within the school e.g. the P&C.
12. Hold one open meeting each year to report to the school community.
13. Provide advice to the principal on religious education and related activities.

Limitations of school Board: a Board cannot:

- Manage the day to day running of the school (for example, it does not employ staff, decide which classes students will be assigned to, or resolve issues relating to individual teachers and students and/or parents);
- Discuss individual issues relating to teachers, staff or parents – these are very clearly management roles and therefore the responsibility of the principal;
- Represent specific interest groups, or permit special interests to dominate the agenda of the Board;
- Intervene in the educational instruction of students;
- Purchase land, buildings or motor cars, nor enter into hire purchase agreements or obtain credit or loans, unless permission is given by the Minister; and
- Performance manage the principal or any other staff member.

P&C Association

1. Provides financial and resource support to the school as deemed necessary via the co-ordination of various fundraising activities.
2. Promote opportunities for parents to be engaged with other parents of the school community focus.

Accessing your School Board

I have an issue to discuss with someone at the school, how do I go about this?

Below is a Flow Chart which attempts to show the processes you can follow to have your issue addressed by the School Board.

