

SCHOOL COUNCILS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM IN ONTARIO. THEY PROVIDE A FORUM THROUGH WHICH PARENTS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF SCHOOL COMMUNITIES CAN CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE.

Consultation with School Councils by Boards and Principals

To ensure that parents, through their school councils, are able to influence decisions affecting their children's education, the school council regulation clearly directs school boards and principals to actively seek the views of their school councils on a variety of matters. Under the regulations, school boards and principals are now required to ask for the views of their school councils before they make decisions on certain matters.

Boards and principals are also required to inform their school councils on how the recommendations have been taken into account when decisions related to their recommendations are made. This is a meaningful addition to the responsibilities of school boards and principals. Including school councils in the development or revision of policies and guidelines or the implementation of education initiatives affirms their role as a key partner in the education system.

Ontario Regulations 612/00 and 298 advise boards and principals that they are also free to solicit the views of their school councils on any matter outside the mandatory areas for consultation.

The Thames Valley District School Board is committed to building a culture that ensures students, parents, staff and community members feel that they are an integral part of the decision-making process. Throughout the year, input is sought on new and revised Board policies and procedures, the coming Budget, name of new and consolidated schools and accommodation studies. We welcome your input in shaping our policies, programs and special initiatives. The Board also often seeks community representation on various task forces and committees.

Sign up for the "Seeking Public Input" mailing list to receive email notification when items have been posted for public input at www.tvdsb.ca/subscribe

