

School Councils

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The purpose of this procedure of Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) is to establish and to maintain a School Council in every school of the board, in order to promote and improve student learning through ongoing valued parent/guardian/caregiver, staff and community input.

1. Role of School Councils

1.1 School Councils

- place the overall interests of the school and all of its students first;
- focus on student learning, achievement and well-being *through equitable and inclusive educational programs for all students*;
- act in an advisory capacity and as a resource to the Principal and, when appropriate, to the TVDSB and/or Board of Trustees;
- are actively involved in setting school priorities for improving student achievement;
- provide consultation based on the general views of the school community;
- promote meaningful caregiver and community involvement and actively seek the views of their school communities;
- keep well-informed about school and TVDSB Policies and Procedures;
- communicate with the community about their activities including the ongoing gathering of caregiver, staff and community input; and
- may engage in fundraising to support student achievement and well-being in accordance with applicable TVDSB Policies and Procedures.

1.2 A School Council shall not engage in fundraising activities unless, the activities are conducted in accordance with any applicable policies established by the board; and;

1.3 Every School Council must have a set of bylaws. At minimum, the bylaws of a Council must include the following: a bylaw that governs election procedures and the filling of vacancies in the membership of the School Council; a bylaw that establishes rules respecting participation in School Council proceedings in cases of conflict of interest; and a bylaw that, in accordance with any applicable policies established by the TVDSB, establishes a conflict resolution process for internal School Council disputes. School Council bylaws are to be reviewed, at minimum, every two school years.

2. Composition

Parents/guardians shall form the majority of the School Council. It is expected that the membership of the Council will reflect the diversity of the school community. In defining a school community, considerations may include such aspects as geography, language, culture, ethnicity, economics, business, and demographics. All members on the School Council are equal partners.

2.1 Membership of a School Council shall include:

- a minimum of 7 and parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school (except in the adult day school where parent/guardian positions shall be held by students);
- the Principal of the school;
- one teacher who is employed at the school, other than the Principal or Vice-Principal;

- one non-teaching staff who is employed at the school, other than the Principal, Vice-Principal or any other teacher;
- in the case of a school with one or more secondary school grades, a minimum of two to a maximum of three pupils enrolled in the school;
- in the case of an elementary school, a minimum of two to a maximum of three pupils enrolled in the school who is appointed by the Principal of the school, if the Principal determines, after consulting the other members of the School Council, that the Council should include a pupil;
- in schools which are specifically identified within an Education Services Agreement and that also have Education Services Agreement students attending, one community member appointed by the First Nation(s) that is (are) signatory to the Education Services Agreement;
- Up to two community representatives appointed by the other members of the School Council; and
- one person appointed by an association that is a member of the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, if the association that is a member of the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, is established in respect of the school.

2.2 Eligibility of Membership

a) Parent/Guardian Representative

Parent/Guardian Representatives must be the legal parent/guardian of a pupil attending the school in which the Council is formed.

A parent/guardian is **not** qualified to be a parent/guardian member of a School Council if,

- a) they are employed at the school; or
- b) they are not employed at the school but are employed elsewhere by the TVDSB, unless they take reasonable steps to inform people qualified to vote in the election of parent/guardian members of that employment.

Only one individual per family unit is eligible to be a parent/guardian member of the School Council.

b) Community Representative(s)

The Community Representative(s) shall be appointed/reappointed by the Council, following elections for Parent/Guardian Representatives.

A person who is employed by the TVDSB cannot be appointed as a community representative on the Council unless,

- a) they are not employed at the school; and
- b) the other members of the School Council are informed of the person's employment before the appointment.

c) Secondary Student Representative(s)

Up to three Secondary Student Representatives shall be appointed by School Council

d) Elementary Student Representative(s)

Up to three Elementary Student Representatives shall be appointed by the Principal, after consultation with the School Council.

e) Teacher Representative

The Teacher Representative shall be nominated and elected by members of the teaching staff assigned to the school.

f) Non-teaching Staff Representative

The Non-teaching Staff Representative shall be nominated and elected by non-teaching employees assigned to the school.

g) **Duly Constituted School Council**

In the event that a School Council cannot be formed with the composition outlined in 2.1 in a given school year, the Principal shall so notify the board through the Superintendent of Student Achievement. The Principal shall then make every effort to facilitate the establishment of a School Council, composed as per section 2.1, for the current school year. The Principal shall report on these efforts to the Superintendent of Student Achievement. An aggregate of schools without School Councils will be submitted in the annual report to the Board of Trustees.

3. By-laws

3.1 Every School Council must have a set of bylaws.

3.2 At minimum, the bylaws of a Council must include the following:

- a bylaw that governs election procedures and the filling of vacancies in the membership of the School Council;
- a bylaw that establishes rules respecting participation in School Council proceedings in cases of conflict of interest; and
- a bylaw that, in accordance with any applicable policies established by the board that established the Council, establishes a conflict resolution process for internal School Council disputes.

3.3 The bylaws of a Council should also include the following:

- a bylaw regarding general expectations regarding meetings (e.g., attendance, promptness);
- a bylaw regarding the number and scheduling of meetings;
- a bylaw regarding the number of parent/guardian members;
- a bylaw regarding the number, description, and duties of officers of the School Council;
- a bylaw regarding the establishment and roles of committees;
- a bylaw regarding the process for seeking input from the community; and
- a bylaw containing a Code of Conduct for School Council members.

3.4 It is important to ensure that bylaws created by the School Council do not conflict with any of the provisions of Ontario Regulation 612/00, nor the TVDSB School Council's Policy and Procedure

3.5 School Council bylaws are to be reviewed, at minimum, every two school years.

4. Elections

4.1 The current School Council may establish a School Council Elections Committee. The committee should have representation from parents/guardians, teaching staff, support staff and students (mandatory in secondary schools; in elementary schools, at the discretion of the Principal).

4.2 Election information, including the nomination process and forms will be widely available to the school community and on the school website, including promotion on the school website photo carousel.

4.3 In the case of a new school, the Principal may form and Chair an Elections Planning Committee. The committee should have representation from parents/guardians, teaching staff, non-teaching staff and students (mandatory in

secondary schools; in elementary schools, at the discretion of the Principal).

4.4 Elections of Parent/Guardian Representatives

- a) Parents/Guardians of a student enrolled at the school are eligible both to vote for and to run as a parent/guardian representative. Self-nomination is allowed.
- b) Parent/Guardian Candidate Nomination forms shall be filed by all candidates for parent/guardian positions on the School Council.
- c) No individual campaign literature for School Council elections may be distributed or posted in the school.
- d) School resources, both human and material, candidates or groups of candidates
- e) If the number of candidates is less than or equal to the number of positions, the candidates shall be acclaimed.
- f) The Principal shall conduct a lottery to determine the random ballot position for each candidate

4.5 Elections for School Council shall be conducted by secret ballot. Voters must submit their ballot either in-person or via pre-determined electronic means, within the prescribed voting timeline, as outlined by the Principal and widely promoted to the school community.

- a) All eligible voters shall be entitled to cast one vote for each of the candidate positions available at their school.
- b) If there is a tie for the final position for a representative on the School Council, the winner shall be determined by random draw conducted by the School Council Chair, or Principal in the election of the Chair.
- c) The election day proceedings shall be supervised by the school Principal.
- d) If all elected positions have not been filled at the end of the election process and vacancies exist, the newly constituted School Council should follow the Vacancies in Membership (Section 6.0) of this Procedure

5. Vacancies

- 5.1 A vacancy in a School Council membership shall be filled by election or appointment in accordance with the Council's bylaws.
- 5.2 If an election is held to fill a vacancy in the membership of a School Council, section above applies to the process, with any necessary modifications
- 5.3 A vacancy in the membership of a School Council does not prevent the Council from exercising its authority.

- 5.4 If a member does not attend three consecutive regular meetings, without prior approval of the Council, the position may be deemed to be vacated by the Council.

6. Terms of Office

The term of office for elected and appointed positions on the School Council is one year.

A person elected or appointed as a member of a School Council holds office from the date of the first meeting of the newly elected School Council (after elections of parent members), until the date of the first meeting of the School Council after the elections of parent members are held in the next school year.

7. Officers

- 7.1 A School Council shall have a Chair or, if the bylaws of the Council so provide, two Co-Chairs.
- 7.2 A Chair or Co-chair of a School Council must be a parent/guardian member of the Council and shall be elected by the members of the Council at the first meeting of the newly elected School Council.
- 7.3 An employee of the TVDSB cannot be the Chair or Co-Chair of the Council.
- 7.4 A School Council may have other officers as provided for in the Council's bylaws.
- 7.5 A School Council that engages in fundraising and/or financial transactions shall have a Treasurer. This office may be combined with another office, if the bylaws of the Council so provide.
- 7.6 Vacancies in the office of Chair, Co-Chair or any other office of a School Council shall be filled in accordance with the bylaws of the Council.

8. Meetings

- 8.1 A School Council shall meet at least four times during the school year.
- 8.2 The first meeting of the newly elected School Council shall be held within the first 35 days of the school year.
- 8.3 All meetings, including committee meetings, of a School Council shall be open to the public
- 8.4 All meetings, including committee meetings, of a School Council shall be held at a location that is accessible to the public.
 - a) *Every attempt shall be made to ensure synchronous electronic participation/hybrid format at School Council meetings ensuring barrier free participation and engagement.*

- 8.5 The Principal of a school shall, on behalf of the School Council, give written notice of the dates, times and locations of the meetings of the Council to every parent/guardian of a pupil who, on the date the notice is given, is enrolled in the school.

9. Quorum

A meeting of a School Council cannot be held unless, a majority of the current members of the Council are present at the meeting; and a majority of the members of the Council who are present at the meeting are parent/guardian members.

10. Minutes and Financial Records

- 10.1 A School Council shall keep minutes of all of its meetings, including committee meetings, and records of all of its financial transactions. *If the School Council includes the role of Treasurer, a Treasurer's report will be given at each meeting to be included in the meeting minutes.*
- 10.2 The minutes and records of the current and past four years shall be available at the school for examination without charge by any person.
- 10.3 Meeting minutes, meeting schedule and information to attend the meeting shall be posted on the school website.

11. Voting

- 11.1 It is recognized that voting may be required as part of the decision-making process of School Councils.
- 11.2 Each member of a School Council is entitled to one vote in votes taken by the Council.
- 11.3 Each member of a committee of a School Council is entitled to one vote in votes taken by the committee.
- 11.4 The Principal of the school is not entitled to vote in votes taken by the School Council or by a committee of the School Council
- 11.5 In order for an issue to pass, a majority of votes in favour is required from members present at the meeting.
- 11.6 In the event of a tie vote at either the School Council or committee level, the issue at hand will be deemed to have been defeated.

12. Committees

- 12.1 A School Council may, in accordance with its bylaws, establish committees to make recommendations to the Council.
- 12.2 Every committee of a School Council must include at least one parent/guardian member of the Council.
- 12.3 A committee of a School Council may include persons who are not members of the Council.
- 12.4 Minutes of committee meetings are to be maintained and provided to the School Council.

13. Annual Report

- 13.1 Every School Council shall annually submit a written report on its activities to the Principal of the school and to the Board of Trustees through the Superintendent with responsibilities for School Councils. This report will include a summary of the work undertaken towards the objectives stated in section 2.0 of the Thames Valley District School Board's Policy: School Councils.
- 13.2 If the School Council engages in fundraising activities and/or financial transactions, the annual report shall include a report on those activities.
- 13.3 The annual report shall be prepared and submitted no later than September 30 of the subsequent school year.
- 13.4 The Principal shall, on behalf of the School Council, give a copy of the report to every parent/guardian/caregiver of a pupil who, on the date the copy is given, is enrolled in the school. This may be accomplished by:
 - a) giving the report to the parent/guardian/caregiver's child for delivery to their parent/guardian/caregiver(s);
 - b) posting the report in the school in a location that is accessible to parent/guardian/caregiver(s); and posting the report on the school website.

14. Conflict of Interest

- 14.1 A conflict of interest for a School Council representative is any situation in which the individual's private interests may be incompatible or in conflict with their Council responsibilities. A conflict of interest may exist whether or not a monetary advantage has been or may be conferred on the School Council member or their family.

A conflict of interest may be actual, perceived, or potential:

Actual: When a School Council member has a private interest that is sufficiently connected to their duties and responsibilities as a Council member that it influences the

exercise of these duties and responsibilities.

Perceived: When reasonably well-informed persons could reasonably believe that a School Council member has a conflict of interest, even where, in fact, there is no real conflict of interest.

Potential: When a School Council member has a private interest that could affect their decision about matters proposed for discussion.

A School Council member should try to avoid situations in which:

- a conflict of interest is likely to result;
- the member's ability to carry out their duties and responsibilities on the Council may be jeopardized;
- the Council member or their relatives gain or benefit indirectly;
- favours or economic benefits are accepted by the Council member from any individuals, organizations, or entities known to be seeking business contracts with the school;
- any family member, friend, or person, organization, or business entity associated with the Council member will be favoured.

14.2 Should an issue or agenda item arise during a Council meeting where a Council member is in a conflict of interest situation, they shall declare conflict of interest immediately and not participate in the discussion and resolution.

15. Conflict of Resolution

15.1 From time to time a dispute may arise amongst the members of a School Council. It is expected that the members of that Council will make every effort to resolve the conflict as per the Resolving Public Concerns and Complaints Policy and Procedure.

15.2 Should an internal dispute require outside intervention to achieve resolution, the Superintendent of Student Achievement for that school will assess the unique needs of the situation and determine an appropriate approach.

Such an approach may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Assistance by a board facilitator, trained in dispute resolution techniques;
- Assistance by an outside trained facilitator;
- Assistance by the Associate Director of Learning Support Services and/or Associate Director of Organizational Support Services; and
- Assistance by the Director of Education.

15.3 The resolution of an issue which arises from a member(s) of a School Council

may include a number of disciplinary outcomes, up to and including the removal of a member of School Council by the Associate Director, in consultation with the Superintendent of Student Achievement and the Principal, if their actions/conduct are in contravention of TVDSB Procedures (e.g., Safe Schools, Harassment), provincial legislation (e.g., Code of Conduct), or include criminal behaviour.

16. Responsibilities of School Council

16.1 Responsibilities of the School Council

The TVDSB School Council Policy(3016) and this accompanying Procedure establishes the requirements and processes to ensure that School Councils:

- are compliant with the Ontario Regulation 612/00 while embracing inclusive approaches that align with the evolving needs of students and families to ensure barrier free participation and engagement; TVDSB is committed to ensuring all School Council meetings are open to the public and provided in a hybrid format. Meeting schedules and minutes of meetings are to be provided to the public (online);
- actively involved in actions that support the TVDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Student Achievement Plan and the school's School Improvement and Equity Plan, and Safe and Inclusive School Plan;
- serve as an advisory body providing informed advice and recommendations to the school's Principal, the TVDSB and/or the Board of Trustees;
- collaborate with students, educators, staff, parents/ caregivers, Home and School Associations and other interest holders (including community partners) on topics of interest to the school community reflecting the TVDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan or Student Achievement Plan;
- actively promote equity and inclusion by embracing diversity in all its forms;
- adopt strategies that ensure representation from various cultural, socioeconomic, linguistic, and ability backgrounds while actively seeking out individuals from underrepresented groups and provide platforms for their meaningful participation to enhance the decision-making process, resulting in initiatives that better reflect the needs and goals of the entire school community. This would include the removal of discriminatory barriers for Indigenous, Black and racialized individuals, individuals experiencing poverty, individuals who are new to Canada, who are members of marginalized religious and linguistic communities, individuals

with disabilities or who have special education needs, and individuals who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+, recognizing the intersectionality between and among these identities;

- actively promote the School Council to the school community through barrier-free methods of communication; including an online presence; discussions should occur with the Principal to determine a plan to increase membership and involvement;
- contribute to the Director of Education's performance appraisal;
- provide input into the Administrator Leadership Profile for the school;
- submit a complete annual report by September 30th of each year; and
- contribute to the development of the School profile with the Principal.

16.2 In addition to the above stated requirements and process, School Councils in TVDSB may also:

- be provided with timely communication on any capital improvements that impact the school community;
- actively engage in providing recommendations on additional areas for consultation, as requested by the Principal (e.g., school budget priorities, developing school priorities):
- provide feedback on TVDSB Policies, Procedures under review, through TVDSB's public input process, and placing the overall interests of the school, school community and all its students first;
- focus on student learning, achievement and well-being through equitable and inclusive initiatives that may benefit all students;
- communicate with the school community about School Council events, and school initiatives;
- Support active and safe routes to schools' initiatives, as appropriate for the school community;
- if engaging in fundraising to support student achievement and well-being, doing so in accordance with applicable TVDSB Policies and Procedures; and
- serve as a resource and support to caregivers/guardians within the school community.

16.3 Each School Council Member shall:

- maintain a school-wide perspective on issues;
- participate in Council meetings, contributing positively and functioning as a team member;
- ensure that the rights to privacy of students, staff and parents/caregivers will be respected and protected;
- observe the Council's Code of Conduct and established bylaws; and
- value the success in achieving the shared goals for the school

Each School Council Member may:

- participate in information and training programs; and
- participate on any committees established by the School Council

16.4 Responsibilities of Chair/Co-Chairs

The Chair /Co-Chairs of the School Council shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- arrange for School Council meetings;
- prepare the agenda for School Council meetings, in consultation with the Principal;
- chair School Council meetings;
- participate in information and training programs
- ensure that the minutes of School Council meetings are recorded;
- communicate with the school Principal;
- ensure that there is regular communication with the school community;
- facilitate the resolution of conflict;
- participate as ex-officio member(s) of all committees established by the School Council;
- consult with Senior Board Staff and Trustees, as required;
- adhere to the responsibilities of Parent/Guardian members in section 17.7; and
- perform other roles and responsibilities as indicated in the Council bylaws.

16.5 Responsibilities of Other Officers

Other Officers of the School Council shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1; and
- perform other roles and responsibilities as indicated in this Procedure and the Council bylaws.

16.6 Responsibilities of Parent/Guardian Members

Parent/Guardian Members shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- solicit the views of other parents/guardians/caregivers and members of the community to share with the School Council; and
- encourage the participation of parents/guardians/caregivers within the school community.

16.7 Responsibilities of the Student Member

The Student Member shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- solicit the views of other students to share with the School Council; and
- communicate information back to other students.
- Liaison with School Council on the implementation of bullying prevention activities between student council (if applicable), school admin and the student body.
- Liaison with School Council on implementation of good mental health initiatives between student council (if applicable), school admin and the student body.

16.8 Responsibilities of the Teaching Staff Member

The Teaching Staff Member shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- solicit the views of other teaching staff to share with the School Council; and
- communicate information back to other teaching staff.

16.9 Responsibilities of the Non-teaching Staff Member

The Non-teaching staff member shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- solicit the views of other non-teaching staff to share with the School Council; and
- communicate information back to other non-teaching staff.

16.10 Responsibilities of the Community Member

The Community Member(s) shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- represent the community's perspective, including those of other community groups;
- solicit the views of other community groups to share with the School Council; and
- communicate information back to other community groups.

The Community Member(s) may:

- assist with building partnerships and links between the school and

community.

16.11 Responsibilities of the Home and School Association Representative Member

The Home and School Association Representative Member shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- represent their Home and School Association;
- solicit the views of their Home and School Association to share with the School Council; and
- communicate information back to their Home and School Association.

16.12 Responsibilities of the Principal

The Principal shall:

- adhere to the responsibilities of School Council Members as noted in 17.1;
- promote the role of School Councils
- ensure that a School Council is established and maintained as per Ontario Regulation 612/00 and the TVDSB School Council policy and procedure at all times;
- endeavor to establish a School Council that represents the school community;
- actively attract and recruit participation on School Council that resembles that of the student population attending the school;
- ensure all community members, including those who are newcomers or historically and currently marginalized, have transparent and equitable access in participating on School Councils;
- find ways to remove barriers to improve access, engagement, and involvement with School Councils;
- conduct elections for Parent/Guardian Members of the School Council;
- conduct the election of the Chair/Co-Chairs of the School Council from among the newly- elected Parent/Guardian Members;
- forward a list of the elected and appointed School Council members to the Director of Education (or designate) no later than 30 days following each election or change of membership in the School Council;
- ensure that the list and contact information for each School Council member is:
 - a) posted in the school in a location that is accessible to parents/guardians/caregivers, and
 - b) posted on the school website;
- be accountable for all funds raised by the School Council in accordance with the TVDSB School Generated Funds Procedure and Process Manual;

- ensure that copies of the minutes and financial records of the Council are maintained and available per section 11 above;
- ensure that annual reports are completed as per section 14 above;
- assist the Council in communicating with the school community;
- attend all School Council meetings, if the Principal is unable to attend a meeting this responsibility may be delegated to the Vice-Principal;
- distribute promptly to each Council member material identified by the Ministry of Education for distribution to School Council members and post the material in a school location accessible to caregivers;
- solicit input on matters pertaining to the establishment or amendment of school and/or TVDSB Policies and Procedures;
- actively solicit input on matters pertaining to the School Improvement Plan and the Safe and Inclusive School Plan goals, School Inclusion and Equity Plan goals;
- solicit input on matters pertaining to school budgets;
- Solicit input on matters pertaining to the communication of school plans to the public;
- consider each recommendation made by the School Council and report to the Council with the action taken in response to the recommendation;
- act as a resource to the Council on laws, regulations, and board policies and procedures;
- engage in internal conflict resolution activities in accordance with Section 16 above;
- support and promote the Council's activities and advice;
- obtain and provide information required by the Council to enable it to make informed decisions;
- support a regularly updated, online presence of the School Council within the school webpage.
- provide direction when the School Council wishes to submit informed recommendations to the board, and/or the Board of Trustees.
- communicate regularly and collaboratively with the Chair or Co-chairs of the School Council;
- maintain a school-wide perspective on issues;
- participate in School Council meetings, contributing positively and functioning as a team member;
- provide opportunities for the School Council to be promoted at school events
- identify all agenda items and/or issues with which they have a possible conflict of interest
- support a collaborative relationship with the area Trustees and School Council
- ensure that the rights to privacy of students, staff and parents/caregivers will

- be respected and protected;
- observe the School Council's Code of Ethics and established bylaws; and
- evaluate the success in achieving the shared goals for the school.

The Principal may:

- solicit the views of the School Council on any matter;
- participate in information and training programs; and
- participate on any committees established by the School Council.

16.13 Responsibilities of the Superintendent of Student Achievement

The Superintendent of Student Achievement shall:

- ensure that each Principal has fulfilled their responsibilities regarding School Councils per Ontario Regulation 612/00 and the TVDSB School Council Policy and Procedure;
- ensure that each school has a School Council established and maintained as per Ontario Regulation 612/00 and the TVDSB School Council Policy and Procedure at all times;
- ensure that the Principal has forwarded a list of the elected and appointed School Council members to the Director of Education (or designate) no later than 30 days following each election or change of membership in the School Council;
- ensure that copies of the minutes and financial records of the Council are maintained and available per section 11;
- ensure that Annual Reports are completed as per section 14 and made available for Trustees to review;
- engage in internal conflict resolution activities in accordance with section 16; and
- provide support to Principals in responding to School Council matters.

16.14 Responsibilities of the Director of Education and Associate Directors of Education

The Director of Education, and Associate Directors of Education shall:

- support and promote the role of School Councils; and
- engage in internal conflict resolution activities in accordance with section 16.

16.15 Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall:

- support and promote the role of School Councils;
- solicit input of the School Council with respect to the following matters, but not limited to:
 - the establishment or amendment of TVDSB Policies and guidelines that relate to pupil achievement or to the accountability of the education system to parents caregivers, including:
 - a) policies and guidelines established under subsection 302 (1) of the Education Act with respect to the conduct of persons in schools within TVDSB's jurisdiction,
 - b) policies and guidelines established under subsection 302 (5) of the Education Act respecting appropriate dress for pupils in schools within the TVDSB's jurisdiction,
 - c) policies and guidelines respecting the allocation of funding by TVDSB to School Councils,
 - d) policies and guidelines respecting the fundraising activities of School Councils,
 - e) policies and guidelines respecting conflict resolution processes for internal School Council disputes, and policies and guidelines respecting reimbursement by TVDSB expenses incurred by members and officers of School Councils;
 - the development of implementation plans for new education initiatives that relate to pupil achievement or to the accountability of the education system to caregivers, including:
 - a) implementation plans for policies and guidelines established under subsection 302 (1) of the Education Act with respect to the conduct of persons in schools within TVDSB's jurisdiction, and
 - b) implementation plans for policies and guidelines established under subsection 302 (5) of the Education Act respecting appropriate dress for pupils in schools within the TVDSB's jurisdiction;
 - Board action plans for improvement, based on the Education Quality and Accountability Office's reports on the results of tests of pupils, and the communication of those plans to the public;
 - Solicit input on the policies and implementation of the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.
 - Solicit input on any parent engagement policies and school initiatives.
 - the process and criteria applicable to the selection and placement of Principals and Vice-Principals.

17. Code of Ethics

17.1 Within the bylaws of every School Council, a Code of Ethics will be established.

17.2 At minimum, the Code of Ethics for every School Council will include the following:

- Members will work in partnership with the school team to support the entire school community.
- Members will consider the best interests of all students in their work while focusing on whole community's interest rather than a single issue.
- Members will be guided by the school and TVDSB's mission, vision and values.
- Members will maintain the highest standards of integrity, and act within the guidelines of the roles and responsibilities of a School Council member, including all relevant TVDSB Policies and Procedures.
- Members will respect the rights and opinions of all members of the school community while encouraging, supporting and valuing individual contributions.
- Members will support and apply an equitable decision-making process.
- Members will respect and apply the principles of confidentiality and privacy, including the limitations this may occasionally place on the operation of the School Council.
- Members will use established communication protocols when questions or concerns arise that require a response from the School Council Chair and/or Principal. This will include all School Council communications to the Principal coming through the School Council Chair.