

School Council Elections

How to encourage parents and other community members to run for School Councils

School Councils should aim to have a full slate of candidates for the available seats. The following suggestions may assist you in increasing the number of interested people in your community who may consider running for Council:

- ★ Invite community members to your meetings to learn first hand about the meetings and the type of issues, discussions and decisions your Council is involved in.
- ★ Hold an information meeting to tell parents about the role that School Council plays in the school community OR make this a special part of a regular Council meeting.
- ★ Talk to other parents and community members who you think would be effective on School Council—encourage others to do so as well
- ★ The process of running for election can be intimidating for some people. Try to reassure parents and make them feel comfortable and welcome as candidates
- ★ Use your school newsletter as well as school and community notice boards to encourage people to run for office

ELIGIBILITY:

In order to run in a School Council election, the legal requirements are that candidates must be:

1. Canadian citizen;
2. 18 years of age or older;
3. a) a resident in the attendance area of the school for at least 3 months,
OR;
b) a parent of a child attending the school

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It is also important that people put their names forward because they are interested in being a part of a team of decision-makers and advisors, always guided by what is in the best interests of the students.

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