



ARDROSSAN AREA SCHOOL
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KAREN BOND
PRINCIPAL

ARDROSSAN AREA SCHOOL

Our vision:

Ardrossan Area School will provide a challenging learning environment in which all students' talents can be fostered. Students will strive to be productive learners who are well equipped to meet future challenges in the local and global community.

**GOVERNING
COUNCIL**



GOVERNING COUNCIL

Governing Council's role is directed by the constitution and code of practice. In this model of governance:

- * The cooperative role of governing council and school staff is emphasised.
- * The focus is on improving student learning outcomes.
- * The broad directions are set and monitored by the governing council.
- * The site leader and staff are responsible for reporting.

What does Governing Council actually do?

Set Broad Direction (In conjunction with the site leader)

The Governing Council identifies and incorporates, where possible, student, parent and community input and values into the broad direction of the school. The Principal brings the staff perspective to these undertakings. The broad direction may include a future vision, a statement of purpose and a set of values that clearly focus on improving student learning.

Develop Broad Directional Policy

The Governing Council develops broad policy statements that facilitate the achievement of the school vision and broad direction. These include matters (but not restricted to) such as Discipline, Dress Code and Harassment.

Initiate and Approve Recommendations and Strategies

Principals work with parents, staff and students to develop recommendations and strategies to achieve the broad site directions jointly set with the governing council. These strategies will include but are not restricted to:

- * **A Site Improvement Plan** that is developed in consultation with the staff and community that will achieve the broad direction set by the governing council.
- * **The allocation of resources** to best achieve the objectives of the Site Learning Plan. The budget recommendation will be developed with the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) and resources must be directed towards the Site Learning Plan. Draft budgets and the final recommendation will be presented to the Governing Council by the Treasurer. The Governing Council has final responsibility for budget approval.

Monitor Progress

The Governing Council monitors the site budget and progress towards the broad directions set and the targets of the Site Learning Plan.

Report Progress

What is the role of the Principal?

Organisational and educational leadership is the responsibility of the principal and staff. It is not a part of the governance role involving the Governing Council and wider community.

What is the Council's membership?

Ten elected Parents
One elected staff member
One elected SRC member
One nominated Community member (DCYP)
Principal

How long is each term of office? Two years

How many meetings will I have to attend?

Usually there are ten per year. If you are unable to attend, simply put in an apology.

Do I have to get a Police Clearance?

Yes, you will and the school will initiate the process and pay for the cost of obtaining it.

How long are meetings?

Meetings start at 7:15pm on the second Monday of the month and normally last for about two hours.

Will I have to be on a sub committee?

No, but the Treasurer is the Chairperson of the Finance committee and there are two other parent representatives on this committee. The Library Board also has a Governing Council Representative. When sub committees are formed, Councillors are invited to participate, but it is not compulsory.

What is the role of the Chairperson?

They act as spokesperson for the council, call and preside over all meetings, prepare the agenda in consultation with the executive comprising office holders and the Principal, ensure meetings are properly convened and there is a full and balanced participation in meetings and makes sure that resolutions are acted upon.

Do I need any special skills to be a member?

Your experience as a parent and a community member is most important as is a genuine interest in the development of the school for all learners. You need to be willing to openly and respectfully discuss issues and be prepared to consult the school community to inform yourself. Once a decision is made you must support it.

What if I don't know much about how things work?

Meetings are not too formal and everyone is constantly learning new things. We have staff members who come and talk to the members about various aspects of the school that helps each member get a good understanding of the various aspects of a school's operation. The most important thing is to commit to all of the meetings. This is important in building your understanding and keeping track of what is happening.