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| <p>ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC S.R.D. NO. 41</p> <p>LEGAL REFERENCES: <i>School Act</i>, Section 17, 44 Alberta Regulation 124/95</p> <p>CROSS REFERENCE: CA, School - Based Leadership; HGDE, Student Fund - Raising Activities; JD, Public Participation at Board Meetings</p> | <p>CODE: CAB-Policy</p> <p>TITLE: School Councils</p> <p>ADOPTION DATE: February 7, 2001</p> <p>REVISION DATE:</p> |
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The Board encourages and promotes School Councils. The Board expects each school council to support the Board mission and beliefs statements in promoting Catholic Education.

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1. The Board expects the school council to follow Board policies.
2. The principal is responsible for the management and operation of the school as assigned by the School Act, and Board policy. The principal's actions shall comply with the legislation and Board policy.
3. In addition to purposes stated in regulation and statute , the purposes of the school council shall be:
 - 4.1 Offer advice and consultation to the principal and the Board about any matter relevant to school operations;
 - 4.2 Encourage greater parent participation in the education of their children;
 - 4.3 Promote parent understanding of the education system and teaching and learning processes;
 - 4.4 Provide parents an organization for expressing their support for education

- 4.5 Foster a total Catholic school community;
- 4.6 Work together to ensure the best possible Catholic education for students in the school and the broader school community;
- 4.7 Enhance communication between the home and the school;
- 4.8 Provide input from parents in the development of the mission of the school and in the attainment of that mission;
- 4.9 Receive reports from the principal on the school program, general policies and organization of the school;
- 4.10 Receive reports and suggestions from parents and community groups on school-related matters;

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- 5. The school council shall observe Board policy with respect to channels of communication.
- 6. The school council may make its own bylaws and rules with respect to the operation of the council.

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- 1. The principal shall assist with establishing a school council.

2. The school council shall provide to the board for information, through the Superintendent, a copy of any bylaws or rules of operation.
3. The school council shall provide its annual report to the board on or before June 15.
4. The accounts and financial affairs of the school council will be subject to audit from time to time by the Secretary-Treasurer or designate.
5. Where an irresolvable dispute arises between the school council and the principal, or within the school council, the following will apply:
 - 5.1 Each party to the dispute shall submit the nature of the dispute, in writing to the Superintendent.
 - 5.2 The Superintendent or designate shall attempt a resolution.
 - 5.3 If the dispute cannot be resolved, the superintendent will convene a resolution committee. This committee shall include a school council member from another school, a principal from another school, and an independent chair appointed by the Superintendent.
 - 5.4 The resolution committee will convene a hearing in an attempt to resolve the dispute. A representative of the school council, and the principal or designate, will each be invited to present the nature of the dispute. The Superintendent will outline the process used to resolve the dispute to this point.
 - 5.5 The resolution committee will make recommendations regarding the resolution of the dispute.
 - 5.6 Costs associated with the activity of the resolution committee will be assessed equally to the school budget and to the school council.

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- 5.7 Where the dispute is still unresolved, the superintendent will report to the Board.

5.8 The decision of the Board shall be binding on all parties.

5.9 The dispute resolution process shall be conducted in a timely manner.

6. Where a school is unsuccessful in establishing a school council, the principal shall make every effort to establish a parent liaison committee for that year.
7. Where a quorum of the council is not reached pursuant to the regulations, the operation of the school council will be suspended until the following school year. The principal shall attempt to establish a parent liaison committee for the remainder of that year.
8. Principal approved costs associated with the operation of the school council shall be included in the operation budget of the school.