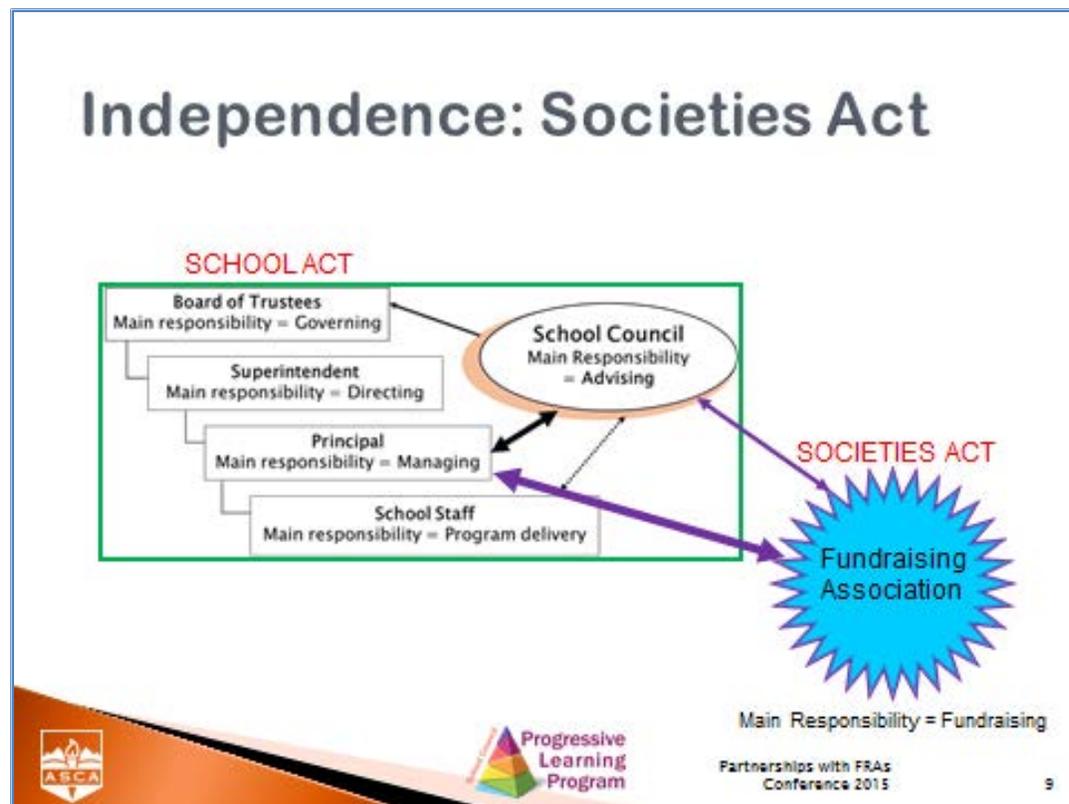
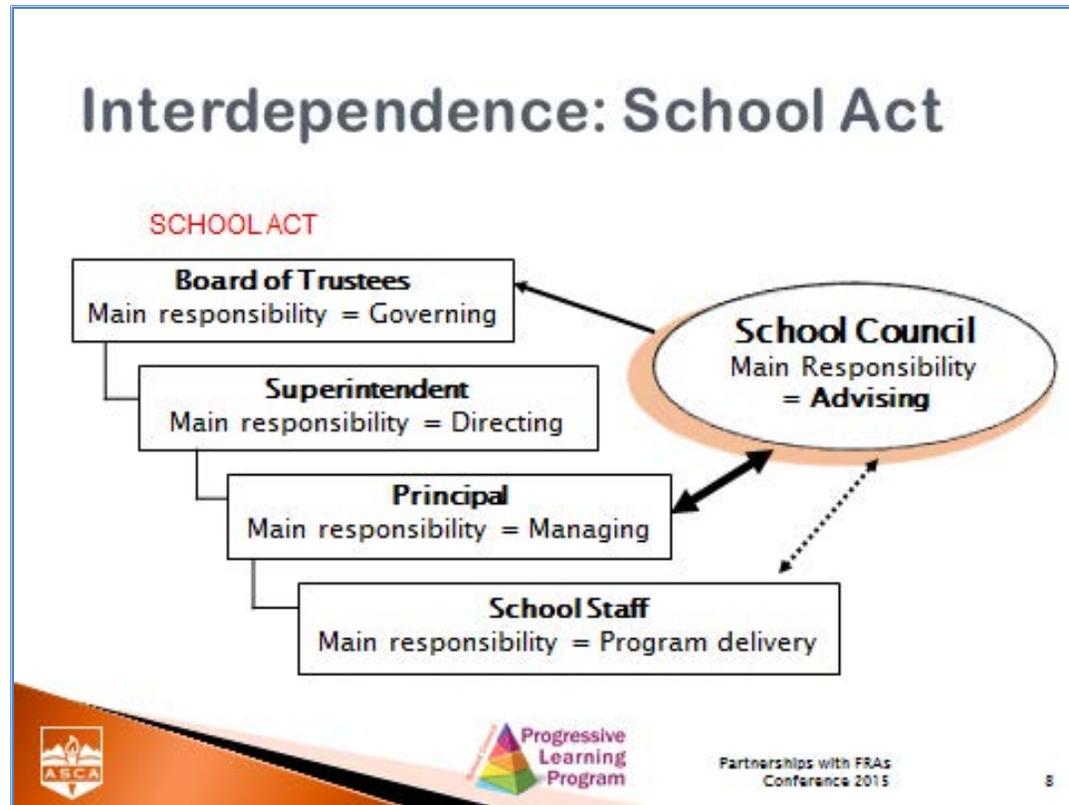


School Council & Fundraising Association Existence and Comparison



School Council & Fundraising Association

Existence and Comparison

School Council: Advisory body given its authority to exist through the School Act.

School councils are collective associations of parents, teachers, secondary students, principals, staff and community representative(s) who work together to effectively support and enhance student learning. They provide one means for members of the school community to provide advice and consult with the principal and to advise the board or the charter board.

School councils were created in 1995 and established under the *School Act*. School councils are mandatory for all schools in the public education system, including charter schools. Their purpose is to be advisory to the principal and the board respecting matters related to the school.

School Councils may:

- advise the principal and the board respecting any matter relating to the school,
- perform any duty or function delegated to it by the board in accordance with the delegation,
- consult with the principal so that the principal may ensure that students in the school have the opportunity to meet the standards of education set by the Minister,
- consult with the principal so that the principal may ensure that the fiscal management of the school is in accordance with the requirements of the board and the superintendent, and
- do anything it is authorized under the (*School Councils*) regulations (113/2007) to do.

Source: Alberta School Act (Section 22); School Councils' Regulation 113/2007; Alberta School Councils' Association

Society: Incorporated entity given its authority to exist through the Societies Act.

A society is an independent legal entity, a corporate 'person' that exists separate and apart from its members. Because of this, the members cannot be held personally responsible for the debts of the society. However, the Directors (elected "decision makers") can be personally named, and held personally responsible, in any litigation involving the Society. Societies are not covered by any insurance policies other than those they purchase themselves.

Societies are similar to non-profit companies, and **must direct any profits back into fulfilling the objectives of the organization.**

Societies can:

- buy, sell and own property, including land
- enter into contracts
- sue others
- be sued

Societies can't

- issue shares
- declare dividends for members
- distribute property among the members during the lifetime of the society

Source: <http://www.servicealberta.ca/Societies.cfm> ; Alberta School Councils' Association



SCHOOL ACT – SECTION 22

Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 Chapter S-3

Current as of October 1, 2005

School Council

- 22 (1)** A school council shall be established in accordance with the regulations for each school operated by a board.
- (2)** The majority of the members of a school council shall be parents of students enrolled in the school.
- (3)** A board of a separate school district or a division made up only of separate school districts, by resolution, may require that the parents of students enrolled in a school operated by the board who are members of the school council must also be of the same faith as those who established the separate school districts, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic.
- (4)** A school council may, at its discretion,
- (a)** advise the principal and the board respecting any matter relating to the school,
 - (b)** perform any duty or function delegated to it by the board in accordance with the delegation,
 - (c)** consult with the principal so that the principal may ensure that students in the school have the opportunity to meet the standards of education set by the Minister,
 - (d)** consult with the principal so that the principal may ensure that the fiscal management of the school is in accordance with the requirements of the board and the superintendent, and
 - (e)** do anything it is authorized under the regulations to do.
- (5)** Subject to the regulations, a school council may make and implement policies in the school that the council considers necessary to carry out its functions.
- (6)** A school council may make bylaws governing its meetings and the conduct of its affairs
- (7)** Subject to the regulations, a board may develop and implement policies respecting school councils.
- (8)** A board shall establish an appeal process or conflict resolution procedure under which the principal or the school council may apply respecting disputes on policies proposed or adopted for a school.
- (9)** The Minister, on the request of the board, may dissolve a school council without notice at any time if the Minister is of the opinion that the school council is not carrying out its responsibilities in accordance with this Act and the regulations.
- (10)** The Minister may make regulations
- (a)** respecting the election or appointment of the members of a school council and the term or other conditions of election or appointment and the dissolution of a school council;
 - (b)** respecting the roles of the principal and the school council of a school and their respective powers, duties and responsibilities;
 - (c)** respecting any other matter the Minister considers necessary respecting school councils;
 - (d)** exempting a school or class of schools from the application of this section.
- 1988 cS-3.1 s17;1990 c36 s6;1994 c29 s8;1995 c27 s3 Source:

Alberta School Council Resource Manual VI Alberta Home and School Councils' Association © 2006, revised 2007.



School Councils Regulation

Alberta Regulation 113/2007

School Act

SCHOOL COUNCILS REGULATION

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Definitions

In this Regulation,

- (a) "Act" means the *School Act*;
- (b) "board" has the meaning given to it in the Act;
- (c) "establishment meeting" means a meeting to be held under section 2 to establish a school council;
- (d) "executive" means the executive of a school council;
- (e) "model of governance" means the process and structure used by a school council to make decisions regarding its business and affairs;
- (f) "school community" in respect of a school means
- (i) students enrolled in the school and their parents,



- (ii) children enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program at the school and their parents,
- (iii) the school staff, and
- (iv) other persons who have an interest in the school;
- (g) “school day” means a day scheduled for the purpose of instruction, examinations or other student activities where student-teacher interaction and supervision are maintained.

School council must be established

- 2** If a school that is required to have a school council has no school council, the school must, in accordance with section 3, hold an establishment meeting within 40 school days after the start of the school year.

Notice of establishment meeting

- 3(1)** If a school is required to hold an establishment meeting, the principal must give notice to the following persons of the meeting:

- (a) a parent of each student enrolled in the school;
- (b) a parent of each child enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program at the school;
- (c) the school staff;
- (d) other members of the school community who, in the principal’s opinion, should be given notice.

- (2)** A notice under subsection (1) must

- (a) describe the purpose of the meeting,
- (b) set out the time, date and location of the meeting, and
- (c) be given at least 10 school days before the date of the meeting.

- (3)** A notice to persons referred to in subsection (1)(d) must

- (a) meet the requirements set out in subsection (2), and
- (b) either
 - (i) be posted in 2 or more locations that are accessible to the public in the area around the school, or
 - (ii) be advertised in a publication that is circulated to the general public in the area around the school.



Principal may establish advisory committee

- 4 If there are fewer than 5 parents in attendance at an establishment meeting or if an establishment meeting is not successful in establishing a school council, the principal may establish an advisory committee for that year to carry out one or more of the duties or functions of a school council.

Chair and secretary at establishment meeting

- 5 The principal must decide who is to act as the chair and who is to act as the secretary at an establishment meeting.

Agenda at establishment meeting

- 6(1) The persons attending an establishment meeting must
- (a) decide, subject to section 8, on the size of the school council,
 - (b) decide on the model of governance for the school council,
 - (c) decide, subject to subsection (2), on the term of office of each member of the school council,
 - (d) elect, subject to subsection (2), the initial members of the school council referred to in section 8(1)(d),
 - (e) decide, subject to section 9, on the size of the executive,
 - (f) decide on the term of office of each member of the executive, and
 - (g) elect the initial members of the executive.
- (2) For greater certainty, but without restricting the generality of subsection (1)(a), the persons attending an establishment meeting may decide that for the purposes of section 8(1)(d), the school council may include all parents of students enrolled in the school who wish to be members.

Right to vote at establishment meeting

- 7 Despite section 6, only persons who attend the establishment meeting and are
- (a) parents of students enrolled in the school, or
 - (b) parents of children enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program at the school are entitled to vote on matters raised at the meeting.

School council membership

- 8(1) A school council must include the following members:
- (a) the principal of the school;



- (b) at least one person who is a teacher at the school, elected or appointed by the teachers at the school;
 - (c) if the school includes a senior high school program, at least one person who is a student enrolled in the high school, elected or appointed by the students enrolled in the high school;
 - (d) subject to section 22(2) of the Act, parents of students enrolled in the school.
- (2) The members of a school council referred to in subsection (1) may establish a process to appoint as members of the school council one or more persons who are not parents of students enrolled in the school but who have an interest in the school.
- (3) The members of a school council referred to in subsection (1) may establish a process to appoint or elect as members of the school council one or more persons who are parents of children enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program at the school.

School council executive

- 9(1) A school council must have a chair and any other members of the executive determined by the persons attending an establishment meeting.
- (2) A parent of a student enrolled in the school must be elected chair of the executive.
- (3) Despite subsection (2), a member who is not a parent may be elected chair of the executive if no parent is willing to be nominated as chair.
- (4) Subject to subsection (2), every member of a school council is eligible to be elected as a member of the executive.

Faith of school council members

- 10 Unless a resolution has been passed under section 22(3) of the Act, the members of a school council may be of any faith

Remuneration of school council members

- 11 No member of a school council shall receive any remuneration for acting as a member of the council.

Prohibition against incorporation

- 12 No school council shall incorporate under the *Societies Act* or Part 9 of the *Companies Act*.

Responsibilities of board

- 13(1) A board must provide the school council with an opportunity to provide advice on the development of the school's
- (a) mission, vision and philosophy,



- (b) policies,
- (c) annual education plan,
- (d) annual results report, and
- (e) budget.

- (2) A board must provide the school council with the school's provincial testing program results and other provincial measures and a reasonable interpretation of those results and measures.
- (3) A board must at all reasonable times allow the school council free and full access to timely and accurate information of the board that is publicly available, including board policies and minutes of board meetings.

Duty to report to the board

- 14(1) The chair of a school council must prepare and provide to the board by September 30 of each year a report
 - (a) summarizing the activities of the school council in the previous school year, and
 - (b) including a financial statement relating to money handled by the school council in the previous school year, if any, and how the funds were used.
- (2) A school council must retain at the school a copy of the minutes for each meeting of the school Council and make them available to the board or the public on request.
- (3) School council must retain the minutes for each meeting of the school council for at least 7 years.

Date for first meeting of school council

- 15 For any school year, the first meeting of the school council must be held within 20 school days after the start of the school year or as specified in the bylaws of the school council.

Suspension of school council

- 16(1) If a quorum is not available for a meeting of a school council and the meeting has been re-scheduled on 2 or more occasions, the board may suspend the operation of the school council until the following year.
- (2) If the operation of a school council is suspended, the principal may establish an advisory committee to carry out one or more of the duties or functions of the school council until a new school council is established under subsection (3).
- (3) If the operation of a school council is suspended under subsection (1), a new school council must be established within 40 school days after the start of the next school year in accordance with sections 2 to 9.



Bylaws of school council

- 17(1)** Each school council may make bylaws respecting the conduct of its business and affairs including, without limitation, bylaws
- (a) respecting the calling of regular, special or annual meetings of the school council;
 - (b) subject to section 6, respecting the election of members of the school council;
 - (c) subject to section 6, respecting the election of members of the executive;
 - (d) respecting the role of the chair and other members of the executive relating to the conduct of the school council's affairs;
 - (e) respecting the number of times the school council must meet each year;
 - (f) respecting the location of school council meetings;
 - (g) respecting the number of school council members that constitutes a quorum at meetings of the school council;
 - (h) respecting a conflict resolution process for internal school council disputes.
- (2)** A Bylaw under subsection (1) does not come into force unless it is approved by a majority of
- (a) parents of students enrolled in the school, and
 - (b) parents of children enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program at the school who vote at a special meeting of the school council called for that purpose.
- (3)** The bylaws continue in force from year to year unless
- (a) they are amended at a special meeting of the school council called for that purpose, and
 - (b) the amendment is approved in accordance with subsection (2).

Fees prohibited

- 18** No school council shall be charged a fee for the use of the school or school facilities for the purpose of holding a meeting of the school council.

Exemptions

- 19** The following are exempt from the application of section 22 of the Act and this Regulation:
- (a) a school for resident students of the Government as described in section 44(7) of the Act that is provided in an institution approved by the Minister;



- (b) a school for students that is provided in an institution approved by the Minister.

Repeal

- 20** The *School Councils Regulation* (AR 171/98) is repealed.

Expiry

- 21** For the purpose of ensuring that this Regulation is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or amended from following a review, this Regulation expires on June 30, 2017.

Coming into force

- 22** This Regulation comes into force on July 1, 2007



Creating School Council Relationships With....

	Principal	Parents	Staff	Students	Elders	Community Leaders	Trustees	District Office Leaders	Others?
<i>Common Ground</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Students</i>
Actions or Activities							*Schedule regular meetings of Board and SC Reps *Invite to attend SC meeting		
Who can help?							*Trustees, District Office, * Principal		
How this helps SC <i>purpose</i> ?							*SC given opportunity to advise *SC gains district perspective		
How this helps increase parent engagement?							*SC seeks and represents school community views		
How can ASCA help?							*Provide workshops, resources, etc.		

