



# What is School Council?

The purpose of School Council, through the active participation of parents, is to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents.

School Councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario. They provide a forum through which parents and other members of the school community can contribute to improving student achievement and school performance.

Education is a partnership involving parents, teachers, principals, school boards, government and the community. By being a part of the School Council team, we work together to ensure a high quality of education for our children.

## Why Be Involved?

Parents play the first and most important role in their children's education and are key partners in building a quality education system. One purpose of the school council is to promote and support the involvement of all parents in their child/children's learning.

This involvement contributes both to the child/children's success in school and to the quality of the school environment.

Participating on School Council is a rewarding experience for all those who value the opportunity to make a difference in their child/children's education. Membership on School Council benefits the individuals involved by providing the following personal advantages:

- Being an important partner in the education system, whose views are valued;
- Contributing to the shared goal of improving student achievement;
- Having a vehicle through which to express opinions;
- Being able to stay keep informed about what is happening at the school, the board and at the provincial level of education.

## Camborne Public School

# School Council

**“Parental involvement is one of the most significant factors contributing to a child’s success at school. When parents are involved in their children’s education, the level of student achievement increases. Students attend school more regularly, they complete more homework in a consistent manner and they demonstrate more positive attitudes towards school...”**

School Improvement Planning: A Handbook for Principals, Teachers and School Councils (November 2000)  
Education Improvement Commission

## Have a voice!



## When and Where Are the School Council Meetings Held?

School Council meets approximately once per month in the school library in the evenings. Please check the school newsletter/website for specific dates.

## Who Attends School Council Meetings?

If you have a child/children enrolled at Camborne P.S., you are welcome to attend meetings. No experience is required! Just bring your ideas and your enthusiasm – everyone has a voice at the table.

## What is Discussed at School Council Meetings?

“To consult” means to seek advice, to confer, to discuss or to deliberate on the views and opinions held by others. In the spirit of the regulations regarding School Councils, there are clear expectations that all partners be consulted:

- School boards and principals are to seek advice from their School Councils.
- School Councils are to seek input from the parents of their school community about matters under their consideration.

Topics of discussion at the Council table include:

- Current events
- Bullying prevention
- School culture
- School spirit
- Student recognition
- EQAO results
- Code of Conduct
- School Improvement Plans
- Literacy and Math Initiatives
- Improving communication
- Parental Engagement activities

## Elected Positions on School Council

Along with parent membership, the School Council is comprised of elected positions, including Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Representative. Any parent representative may be nominated to one of these positions.

### Roles...

The **Chairperson** shall:

- Call School Council meetings;
- Prepare the agenda for meetings in collaboration with the principal;
- Chair School Council meetings;
- Ensure that minutes and financial records are recorded and maintained;
- Maintain ongoing communication with the principal;
- Encourage community representation;
- Facilitate communication with parents and the community;
- Ensure representation at Regional School Council meetings.

The **Vice-Chairperson** shall:

- Fulfil the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence.

The **Treasurer** shall:

- Receive and track monies owed to the Council;
- Keep full and accurate accounts of monies received/dispensed on behalf of Council;
- Present a completed financial statement at the final School Council meeting of the school year.

The **Secretary** shall:

- Record and report, without prejudice, the minutes of the Council meeting;
- Ensure an accurate record of minutes is available for each meeting;
- Distribute the minutes and agenda to Council members prior to the meetings.

## School Council Parent Candidate Nomination Form

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the elected position of \_\_\_\_\_ on the Camborne School Council.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ who is currently registered at this school.  
*(name of student)*

\_\_\_\_\_ is the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, who is currently registered at this school.  
*(name of person nominated)*  
*(name of student)*

The person I have nominated is an employee of the board.

Yes

No

Nominator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date



