



Community Engagement

The Board develops and implements strategies to enhance its communication and engagement with communities, ratepayers and the citizens of Pine Creek School Division. These strategies include:

- Maintaining formal connections with the community, government and with other relevant agencies and organizations in order to support the achievement of Board goals for the Division. The Board shares information, proactively identifies issues of importance, works collaboratively and builds relationships.
- Making all reasonable effort to identify the interests of the community and to be responsive through Board actions to those interests.
- Establishing a liaison committee that allows the Board to network with Division personnel in order to build positive relationships with staff, senior administrators, and Trustees and to share items which enable each party to better understand the common purpose of the Division mission statement.
- Ensuring appropriate protocols for communicating complaints and concerns regarding specific schools, personnel or individual student situations
- Encouraging the attendance of media at meetings (with the exception of in-camera meetings) in order to keep the public informed of Board and Division challenges, deliberations, policies, and actions.
- Designating a Board spokesperson who will endeavour to be current on all matters of Board governance and policy. In most cases this will be the Board Chair or the Chair's designate. Individual Board members who receive requests from media representatives refer the information-seekers to the Board Chair or designate.
- Designating the Superintendent or his/her designate to act as the primary spokesperson for educational or administrative matters and the Secretary-Treasurer or his/her designate as the official spokesperson regarding financial or operational matters.

The Board develops and maintains a communication plan to address key issues with support from Senior Administration.

Community Involvement in Decision Making

There are two major ways in which the will of the community influences the Board policies:



- The citizens of the Division vote to elect Trustees to represent their ward; and
- All citizens of the Division are encouraged to express ideas, concerns, and opinions about the schools through such means as:
 - Written suggestions or proposals;
 - Presentations by individuals or delegations at Board meetings;
 - Responses to surveys made regarding education;
 - Attendance at open meetings of the Board; and
 - Active involvement with the school Parent Councils.