

## Pine Creek School Division

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### PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

The Pine Creek School Division supports the establishment of Parent Councils within its schools. The Board of Trustees recognizes that these partnerships can be structured in a variety of ways as outlined in the provincial document ***School Partnerships: A Guide for Parents, Schools and Communities (2005)***. The Board recognizes that involving citizens in meaningful ways provides students, parents, schools, and the community with a variety of significant benefits including:

- (a) a healthy learning environment for all students;
- (b) a more common knowledge of the goals and objectives of education;
- (c) a greater community understanding of Board policies and processes;
- (d) improved academic performance;
- (e) improved student attitudes and behaviour; and
- (f) improved working environments for educators.

The school division will only recognize one group as the Parent Council from each public school. Any other parent groups (e.g. Play Structure Committee, Camp Committee) must be authorized subcommittees of the recognized Parent Council.

Parent Councils and their authorized subcommittees involved in raising and collecting funds and the disbursement of such funds must adhere to divisional policies for such activities including having financial procedures consistent with Regulation KBE-R Financial Responsibility for Parent Councils.

Under the *Public Schools Act*, the Board of Trustees has ultimate responsibility for the development of policy and for the total operation of the Division, including instructional activities in schools. The Board delegates the responsibility for these processes to employed personnel. Parent Advisory Councils are supportive to these processes and work with the Principal and staff in ways that are consistent with Division policy, provincial regulations and provincial guidelines.

The Board of Trustees values consultation with Parent Advisory Councils and will invite PAC delegations to an annual forum at the first regular meeting in the month of November as part of the annual budget consultation process.