

#1137153

KMA-R-1

KMA-R-2

KMA-R-3

KMA-R-4

### **Parent Involvement in Schools**

The School Board supports the creation of parent organizations in all schools, recognizing their value in enhancing our students' education. The purposes of Parent Organizations are to promote involvement, positive relationships and communication between the home, school, and community. They function to support the school's objectives, keeping the student as the central focus of the educational system.

Parent organizations, therefore, are advisory and supportive in nature, and shall work with the principal to operate in ways consistent with school division policy.

#### **1. Forms of Parents Organizations in Schools:**

Depending on the format, these parent organizations will be referred to as:

1. Parent Advisory Councils (see KMA-R-1 & KMA-R-2)
  - a. This form involves high levels of parent involvement, multiple functions, and revenue sources, leading to moderate to high cash flows and high organizational needs.
  - b. It is most common in K-5 schools, it is less common in 6-8 and 9-12 schools. Schools with active parent involvement and large activity agendas may choose this form.
  - c. A quorum for the annual meeting to elect an Executive should include at least 5% of the school's parent population. If such quorum is not met, the principal may establish a School Advisory Committee.
2. School Advisory Committees (see KMA-R-3)
  - a. This form involves lower levels of parent involvement, minimal cash flow, and less organizational need. It primarily serves as a communication channel between parents and school staff, providing informal advice to the principal. They are typically found in 6-8 and 9-12 schools.
  - b. If parent involvement is low, this form may be selected by parents or the principal. If involvement increases, the committee can transition to a Parent Advisory Council.

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3. Booster Committees (see KMA-R-1 & KMA-R-2)
  - a. This form focuses on specific activities (e.g., school band) with high levels of parent involvement, potentially high cash flow, and organizational needs. It advises and supports the principal regarding the specific student activity. It can report directly to the principal or function as a committee within a School Advisory Committee or Parent Council.
4. Advisory Councils for School Leadership (see KMA-R-4)
  - a. This form is established under Regulation 54/96.

## **2. Requirement for Principal to Call an Establishment Meeting**

Principals must hold an annual Establishment Meeting to form a parent organization by the third week of October. The meeting must be publicized in school communications in June of the previous year with additional notices sent in the fall, and a final notice no later than one week before the meeting. The meeting will be held at the school, with the principal serving as chair during elections.

1. Decision Process:
  - a. The first action at the meeting is a vote by parents/guardians on the type of parent organization to establish.
  - b. The principal will review relevant policies to inform the decision.
2. If a Parent Advisory Council is Chosen:
  - a. The meeting will continue with the election of the Council's Executive.
  - b. Policies KMA-R-1 will govern operations and KMA-R-2 will govern financial operations.
3. If an Advisory Council for School Leadership is Chosen:
  - a. The meeting will adjourn, and the principal will schedule a second meeting to elect an Executive.
  - b. Policies KMA-R-4, along with Regulation 54/96, will guide operations.

## **3. Parent Organizations - Divisional Forums**

The School Division, led by the Chair of the Board, will hold at least one meeting per school year for elected Parent Advisory Council presidents and a

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representative from the School Advisory Committees. This meeting will allow for discussion on matters of interest to Parent Organizations. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

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