



**POLICY: School Councils**

REFERENCE NO: P-AD-03

The Greater Essex County District School Board envisions a mutually supportive community shaped by a process of active participation, cooperation and consensus building. The Board values the contributions of parents and other partners involved in education and believes that the quality of the programs and services offered to its students can be improved and enhanced by building stronger Board, staff, parent, student and community relations.

When schools place a priority on the involvement of families, students do better in school. Family involvement promotes a more responsive school climate, which in turn improves student attendance, behaviour and achievement.

One important way in which families can be involved in school is through participation on school councils. Through the active participation of parents and the community, the council members' purpose is to assist in the improvement of student learning at home and at school and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. The primary means of achieving school council's purpose is to make recommendations to the Principal of the school and to the Board for consideration and appropriate response.

Each school under the jurisdiction of the Greater Essex County District School Board shall establish and maintain a school council in accordance with regulations established by the Board.

Interpretation: In this policy, "parent" includes guardian.