

Appendix L: School Council Checkup

Advising, Planning and Reporting

- ⌚ Review provincial achievement test/diploma exam results with the principal.
- ⌚ Discuss the pros and cons of achievement tests/diploma exams and how they relate to the school.
- ⌚ Be aware of how the school uses these tests to improve student achievement.
- ⌚ Provide input into school's long and short-term education plans. Does the plan still reflect the needs of the school community? Does the plan align with the jurisdiction's priorities?
- ⌚ Review the school's annual results report.
- ⌚ Are there areas where the school council can help the school achieve its goals?
- ⌚ Talk about general school policies and programs. Examples could include discipline or dress code.
- ⌚ Look at the school's success in meeting its education plan. Celebrate successes.
- ⌚ Have discussions about the school implementing new or existing programs (e.g., curriculum emphasis, offering of options, such as drama, music, languages).
- ⌚ Have discussions on the in-service needs of the school's parents and other school council members (e.g., school council development workshops).
- ⌚ Identify future challenges.

Communication and Public Relations

- ⌚ Involve the whole learning community in important decisions (e.g., public meetings, forums, surveys, community bulletin boards, school Web site).
- ⌚ Provide the parent perspective in the school newsletter (e.g., volunteer news, calendar of meetings, articles).
- ⌚ Support parents and teachers working in partnership to enhance student learning (e.g., classroom newsletters, homework posted on Web site, classroom meetings, student agendas/planners).
- ⌚ Share information with other school councils in your jurisdiction (e.g., Council of School Councils, Family of Schools).
- ⌚ Network with other school councils and provincial organizations through AHSCA membership, resolutions submissions and AHSCA's Annual Parent Conference.
- ⌚ Provide time for committee, regional and provincial AHSCA reports at school council meetings.