

West Nissouri Public School School Advisory Council Frequent Asked Questions

What is the School Advisory Council (SAC)?

The West Nissouri Public School Advisory Council provides an opportunity for parents, guardians, educators, students and the community to actively participate in the improvement of learning and the learning environment.

Our Objectives:

- To enhance the accountability of the education system;
- To promote and develop strategies for parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- To provide effective communication between stakeholders and to promote the educational activities at WNPS.

Who is part of the School Advisory Council?

Parents/Guardians, Principal, Teacher Representative and Community Representatives

What happens at a SAC Meeting?

A typical meeting consists of planning upcoming events, debriefing past events, discussing ways to increase parent engagement in our school community to support our students. The meetings wrap up with a report from the principal. Past topics include: Student Code of Conduct, Dress Code, Board Policies, Programming, Staffing and Class Size, School Improvement Plan.

Who should attend the SAC Meetings?

All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the SAC meetings and be engaged in the school community. Student achievement improves, and good schools become even better schools when parents are involved.

What are the benefits of attending SAC meetings?

Parent engagement matters. Study after study has shown us that student achievement improves when parents play an active role in their children's education, and that good schools become even better schools when parents are involved. It is recognized that parent engagement is a key factor in the enhancement of student achievement and well-being.

Students are more likely to be motivated, to earn higher grades, to have better behaviour and social skills, and to continue their education to a higher level when their parents are actively engaged in supporting their success at school.

Membership on a school council also benefits the individuals involved. The personal advantages of becoming a school council member include: being an important partner in the education system, whose views are valued; contributing to the shared goal of improving student achievement; having a vehicle through which to express opinions; Making a Difference being able to keep informed about what is happening at the school and the board, and at the provincial level of education. Participating on the

school council will be a rewarding experience for all those who value the opportunity to make a difference in their children's education.

School councils make recommendations to their principals and school boards on any matter. Principals and school boards, in turn, must consult with school councils on a variety of matters that affect student learning. They must also consider recommendations made by school councils and report back to the councils on how they plan to act on their advice.

What is the difference between the School Advisory Council and the Home and School?

Home and School has a membership fee with a focus on school fundraising and is exclusively focused on the student social experience (Hot Lunch, Spiritwear, Graduation, Year End Celebration).

If you would like to have input on important school decisions and are interested in helping make the school the best it can be, School Advisory Council is for you.

When does the SAC meet?

We meet on the first Monday of each month at 6pm in the School Library.

Do I have to attend all meetings?

No, we understand that everyone is busy. There is no requirement that you attend all meetings. Come on out to one or all, we are happy to have you whenever it fits your schedule.

How can I help even if I am not able to attend meetings?

Yes! Please follow us on Facebook and keep an eye for our upcoming events advertised in the monthly newsletters. We are always looking for volunteers to help during our events.

Can I bring my children to the meetings?

Of course children are welcome. At this time there is no formal supervised child care provided, however this can be organized if we know there is a need in advance of the meeting (5 days). Children are welcome to come if you feel they are able to keep themselves quietly occupied using the library resources.

What types of events does the SAC organize?

Past events organized include: Welcome Event, Career Nights, Math Nights, Parent/Child Yoga, Student Well Being/Mental Health Support

How can I contact the SAC?

Email: sc-westnissouri@tvpic.ca

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/719102175103790/>