

Through SPCs, parents are equal partners with educators and students in planning for improvement of student achievement in our schools. To participate effectively in planning, it is important to choose the three PAC representatives to the SPC carefully. Your PAC representatives to the SPC are parent leaders representing ALL parents in your school in the important job of school planning.

Before you hold your election, discuss the attributes and skills you expect of your representatives, to enable them to participate effectively in the work of the SPC.

Suggested Attributes

- A team player - respectful, reliable, collaborative, courteous.
- Committed to improving student achievement through meaningful parent involvement in school planning and goal setting.
- Understands and believes in being inclusive and representative.
- Willing to represent the PACs views even if those views differ from their own.
- Committed to taking direction from the PAC and executive.
- Interested in learning new skills and willing to take training.

Suggested Skills

- An effect listener and speaker.
- Can write timely, accurate and concise reports.
- Comfortable presenting a point of view that may differ from others at a meeting.
- Able to ask difficult questions.

SPC members, and the school community at large, can take pride in their contributions to improving student achievement for *all* students in our district.

If you would like to be involved in your child's education and you are interested in serving on the School Planning Council in your child's school please contact your PAC Executive for more information.

If you would like more information on School Planning Councils, District Accountability Contracts or the Ministry of Education's Accountability framework, please contact:

Rocky Mountain DPAC

P.O. Box 70
Kimberley, B.C.
V1A 2Y5

Phone: 250-427-5231
Fax: 250-427-5228

E-mail: dpac@sd6.bc.ca



School Planning Councils



Rocky Mountain DPAC



Quest for Quality

School Planning Councils

The purpose of School Planning Councils (SPCs) is to formally acknowledge the importance of parental involvement in improving student achievement. SPCs are part of the *Accountability Framework* created by the Ministry of Education to focus attention and resources on improving the achievement of *all* students in B.C. The Accountability Framework creates an annual accountability cycle in every school, district and the Ministry of Education. The cycle involves school plans, the district accountability contract and district review.

The SPC will provide advice to the School Board with respect to:

- Allocation of staff and resources in the school.
- All matters contained in the board's Accountability Contract relating to the school.
- Educational services and educational programs in the school.

This advice will aid the district in the preparation of the district Accountability Contract.

Who Sits on the SPC?

The School Planning Council consists of:

- The school principal.
- One teacher representative elected by secret ballot from the teaching staff.
- Three parent representatives elected by secret ballot from the school's PAC.
- In schools that enroll grades 10 through 12, one student of school age enrolled in one of those grades. The student is appointed annually by the principal after consultation with the students enrolled in those grades.

The School Planning Council is an advisory body. The major responsibility is to **consult** with the school community in developing, monitoring and reviewing school plans for improving student achievement. It is important that the SPC be proactive in reaching out to all members of the school community. The school community consists of all parents, students, principals, teachers and support staff. School plans should reflect the characteristics, values and needs of the school community.

School Success Plans

School Success Plans are to focus on specific areas of student achievement. Student achievement includes intellectual, human and social development and career development. The primary focus of the school is on intellectual development. SPCs are required to develop school plans with clearly stated goals in important areas of student achievement in the school.

To develop and monitor school goals, SPCs must examine data on student achievement from a wide range of sources including classroom, school, district and Ministry data.

Data reveals patterns in student performance, participation, satisfaction, and many other things related to learning, and indicate where changes in practice can or should be made.

After examining the data, the information that is revealed will be used to develop the School Success Plan. The plan will include clearly stated goals with the analysis and rationale for the selection of goals, an indication of the specific performance targets for improving student achievement and a description of the data that the school will use to track its progress.