

Ravensthorpe DHS School Council

What is a School Council and what does it do?

All government schools in Western Australia are encouraged to have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given authority to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the School Council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school, as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of School Council. The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. These members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Members of the Council are appointed for a term not exceeding 3 years.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on School Council provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become actively involved in the school via School Council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging. Should you wish to be provided with further information please do not hesitate to make contact with me. Should you wish to nominate for School Council, please complete and return the attached nomination form.

Nominations close Friday 9th February 2018.



RAVENSTHORPE DISTRICT HIGH
**Nominations are invited for parent / community positions
on the School Council for 2018.**

Nominations close on Friday 9th February 2017

FUNCTIONS OF SCHOOL COUNCILS

The functions of School Council are to take part in:

- Establishing and reviewing from time to time, the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
- The planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;
- Evaluating the school's performance in achieving them;
- Formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.

("Taking part in" could involve the School Council in discussion, consultation, contribution, assessment, debate and negotiation of issues on behalf of students, parents and the school.)

The school code of conduct describes expectations for student behaviour and management procedures for inappropriate behaviour. The code includes rights and responsibilities of members of the school community. The School Council ratifies the code, including specified behavioural consequences and serious breaches of discipline.)

- Determine, in consultation with students, their parents and staff a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school;
- Promote the school in the community;

The School Council approve:

- charges and contributions for the provision of certain materials, services and facilities;
- extra cost optional components of educational programs;
- items to be supplied by a student for personal use in an educational program; and
- any agreements or arrangements for advertising or sponsorship in relation to the school.

(Note: "to determine", "to promote" and "to approve" represents a change from "taking part in" to a stronger, more direct and authoritative role for the school Council with a greater depth of involvement and a clearly defined decision-making function.)

The School Council provides advice to the principal of the school on:

- a general policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and material based on religious, spiritual or moral values being used in a school activity as part of religious education; and the implementation of special religious education.

Nominee: _____
(Include name and signature)

Secunder: _____
(Include name and signature)

You are invited to provide a brief written statement to support your nomination.

This will be published with the ballot paper.

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE
Ravensthorpe DHS FRONT OFFICE**