**School Board and the P & C; what is the difference?**

Essentially these two groups have a common goal to support and guide the school in its core business of providing positive learning outcomes for all students in the school.

The table below shows information about each group’s main purpose, while the Flow Chart on the back of the page shows how parents and community members can access the School Board to have certain types of issues discussed and actioned.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **School Board** | P&C Association |
| 1. Assists with the establishment & review of the school’s goals, priorities, targets and general policy directions.
2. Evaluates school’s performance in achieving these goals.
3. Verifies financial planning to support the above.
4. Formulates codes of conduct for students and parents.
5. Promotes the school in the community.
6. Determines, in consultation, a dress code for students when attending or representing the school.
7. Provides advice on policy for religious education.
8. Approves:
	* Charges, contributions and fees;
	* Extra cost optional components of the school’s educational program.
	* Items for personal use in the educational program.
	* Advertising and sponsorship arrangements
 | 1. Provides financial and resource input to the school as deemed necessary.
2. Seeks information and discusses matters that can then be passed onto the School Board for examination and possible inclusion in the school’s strategic planning and/or policy.
3. Makes policy only for itself.
4. Provides a representative on the School Board and thus has influence in the decision making process.
5. As members of the Western Australian Council of State Schools Organisation (WACSSO), advocates and lobbies for parents.
 |
| Both the School Board and P&C need to have good communication and a friendly relationship to enable the school to meet its purpose and vision. |
| **Limitations of the School Board:** *a School Board cannot*:* Intervene in the control or management of the school.
* Intervene in the educational instruction of students.
* Exercise authority over teaching staff or other persons employed at the school.
* Intervene in the management or operation of a school budget.
 |

**Accessing your School Board**

***”I have an issue to discuss with someone at the school,
how do I go about this?”***

Below is a Flow Chart which shows the processes you can follow to have your issue addressed by the School Board.

Issues about aspects of the school that you feel need changing or developing.

(e.g. School policies, ideas for improvement or dress code reviews)

***Discussions and issues about individual student performance, incidents at school or matters concerning staff***

Direct to a school representative on the School Board for referral to the School Board (e.g. Principal or identified teacher).

(**Issue can not be related to staff member or student.)**

Direct to P & C meeting for discussion and possible referral to School Board.

Direct to School Board via contact with member of School Board or via letter to the Chairperson.

(**Issue can not be related to staff member or student.)**

**P & C**

**SCHOOL BOARD**

**SCHOOL**

School can refer issues via School representative.

The P & C can refer the issue via their School Board representative.

School Board reports back through P & C representative on progress, future process or decision.

School Board asks School to assist in solution, gather more information or request clarification.

Communicates directly with the whole school community via surveys, open letters, public meetings