

## MEMO

**To:** School Council  
**From:** Silvie MacLean, Chair (A)  
**RE:** Background to Ministry of Education School Council Guidelines & By-Laws  
**Date:** Sept. 30, 2020

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**\*Attachment**

Dear School Council,

I am attaching for easy reference the *Ministry of Education School Council Guidelines* (2002) and the *By-law for School Council*. The guidelines were listed under the link I sent out at the bottom of the draft Agenda for the October 22, 2020 package. The *By-Law for School Council* are found under the **Banting Parent portal** at:

<http://banting.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/resources/School-Council/SFBSS-SC-Bylaws-Rev.pdf>

However, I must admit within the link, you have to go to three (3) different navigation points to access and some parents may find this challenging. I recognize, there is a lot of information to review within these guidelines but I strongly suggest, that before the elections to review Section 3 of the *Guidelines*, as well as the *By-law for School Council*. Section 3 will provide an overview of the regulations which School Council is to abide by (and then perhaps come back to read the rest of the guidelines when you have more time). The *Guidelines* and *By-law* are both attached as a pdf herein.

There are two main regulations, namely *Ontario Regulation 612/00* and *Regulation 298* that work together to address three key areas. These three areas outline: (1) the purpose of school councils, (2) operational matters, and the obligation of boards and; (3) principals to consult with school councils. Regulation 612/00 confirms that school councils are advisory bodies and clearly states that they may make recommendations to their principals or school boards on any matter. The regulations require boards and principals to report back on how the recommendations have been taken into account. Regulation 612/00 clearly directs school councils to consult with parents of students enrolled in the school about matters under consideration by the council. Regulation 298 specifically relates to duties/responsibilities and operations of teachers and principals. Therefore, this memo (along with the attachment herein) as well as the **approved** School Council Agenda and Minute Meetings are posted on the Banting Parent Portal School Council website on a timely basis so that we are transparent and abiding by the regulations.

Please also note as part of the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) priority of placing safety and well-being of students and staff, there are a number of resources that are provided that you may want to also peruse which I found useful from a parent/community perspective.

<https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/school-councils-leadership-guide.aspx>

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLL9jSehoIp9tBUxyN6XBtH5K933b2C\\_N4](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLL9jSehoIp9tBUxyN6XBtH5K933b2C_N4)

I trust this information is helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Yours respectfully, Silvie MacLean