

DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Background

The Division believes that a school system functions best when there is a continuous exchange of ideas and pertinent information among groups within the system. Positive attitudes and morale among the staff are enhanced when each employee is assured that his/her voice is willingly heard by those in positions of authority. Similarly, providing opportunities for community input into the decision making process can enhance the quality of decisions made.

The Division supports the establishment of channels of communication to facilitate the receipt of employee and community input into the decision-making process.

Procedures

1. Staff are encouraged to express their ideas and concerns about the operation of the school jurisdiction through established communication channels. Ideas and concerns involving policy development or revisions should be expressed through the Policy Advisory Committee representatives.
2. Division parents and community members are encouraged to express their ideas, concerns and judgment about the school through such means as:
 - 2.1 Written suggestions or proposals.
 - 2.2 Presentations to the Board.
 - 2.3 Responses to surveys made through interviews, questionnaires or other means.
 - 2.4 Participation through school councils and local advisory committees.
 - 2.5 Direct contact with jurisdiction staff and administration.
3. Input from the public and staff will be taken into consideration by administration and the Board. In evaluating such advice, the first concern will be for the educational program as it affects students. The Board's final decision may depart from this advice when, in the judgment of the staff and the Board, such advice is not consistent with goals adopted by the Board, good educational practice, or within available financial resources.
4. School councils, individually or collectively, are encouraged to provide input and feedback on Board policies and decisions.
5. The Superintendent is responsible for assisting in establishing various committees.