

Divine Mercy School Council



Contact: dmschoolcouncil@hotmail.com



What is a school council?

- A **collaborative group** made up of **parents, teachers, the principal, and community representatives**.
- A **legally recognized entity** mandated for every school operated by a board in Alberta **under the Education Act**.
- An **advisory body** focused on **student success**, which is completely distinct from a fundraising society that handles school finances.



Core Purpose

- **Enhance Student Learning:** We work together to support and enrich the educational experience for all students.
- **Provide Meaningful Advice:** We act as a vital consultative bridge, offering parent perspectives and advice to the school principal and the Board of Trustees.
- **Build Community Spirit:** We help foster a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe environment for all families.



What We Actually Do

- **Consult** on important matters like **annual school budgets**, **development plans**, and **educational programming**.
- **Advise** on **school policies**, **vision**, and **principles**.
- **Represent** the **diverse voices** and **interests** of the entire **school community**.
- **Share** **important school updates** and help **shape** the school's overall **culture and direction**.



Why Your Voice Matters

- **For New Parents:** This is your best opportunity to **learn** how the school operates, **ask questions**, and bring **fresh perspectives** to the table.
- **For Returning Parents:** Your historical **knowledge** and ongoing **mentorship** are vital for **maintaining our school's strong culture** and continuing long-term initiatives.
- **For Everyone:** You do not need to take on a heavy workload to participate. **Simply attending**, sharing your **viewpoint**, and **voting** helps ensure our school reflects the values of our community.



How does it work?

- **Elected Executives:** All parents, guardians etc are members of the school council. An elected group of parents are chosen through election each year, to represent the parent community and ensure all the council obligations are met.



- **Directors at Large:** Our school council has 2 positions that lead fundraising and helping hands. These people are typically more involved than just attending meetings
- **Parents, Guardians, School Admin team:** All parents and guardians of students are members of the school council, and are welcome to attend the meeting throughout the year. No experience is required, and you are welcome to come and listen, and meet other parents, and guardians

Resources to learn more

- **ASCA (Alberta School Councils Association):**
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>
- **School Councils in Alberta:**
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/school-councils/school-councils-in-alberta>
- **School Council Resource Guide:**
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/181387>

