



## **GOVERNING COUNCIL POLICY**

### **BACKGROUND**

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School Governing Councils are established under State Legislation to involve school communities in the governance of schools and hence to strengthen and support public education in the community.

### **FUNCTIONS OF SCHOOL COUNCILS**

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- To involve the school community in the governance of the school.
- To set the broad direction and vision of the school.
- To oversee the strategic planning for the school.
- To determine policies for the school including policies for the safety, welfare and discipline of students.
- To develop and oversee the School Global Budget.
- To report to the school community and Minister on the operation and improvements of the school.

### **MEMBERSHIP OF THE MHS COUNCIL**

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**The Millicent High School Governing Council is comprised of the following:**

1. 6-8 parents elected for two year terms
2. 2 elected staff representatives
3. The Principal
4. 1 representative from the Parents and Friends committee.
5. 1-2 Student Representatives from SRC
6. 2 representatives from the ILC

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

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**The A.G.M for our school council is held in early March of each year. At this meeting:**

- Annual reports on the operation of the school are presented
- There will be a forum to consider issues and policies related to the operation of the school
- Financial Reports are tabled and the Budget for the school year is ratified
- Parent representatives for the Council are elected

### **OFFICE HOLDERS**

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At the AGM a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are elected.

Members of Council are also nominated to sit on various committees eg. Finance, Buildings and Grounds, Cafeteria, and other 'ad hoc' committees eg uniform.

These committees fill important roles in the functioning of the school and Council.

For example, Finance committee oversees the implementation of the school budget and has delegated authority over expenditure up to a specified amount.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

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The MHS council usually meets twice a term from February to December.

Currently meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of the month.

### **At meetings reports are presented from:**

- The principal
- Finance committee / Treasurer
- Staff
- SRC
- The various other committees and subcommittees. eg. Facilities and Grounds, Parent and Friends, Uniform.

The General Business of the meeting covers a wide range of topics: eg. proposed bus route changes, consideration of school policy proposals, fundraising ideas and planning, approval of major items of expenditure, approval of school pupil free days, etc.

Interested persons can attend council meetings by agreement with members of the council. They can be invited to speak to council on particular topics but are not able to vote.

## WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO PARENTS NEED TO HAVE TO BE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL?

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### **Simply:**

- an interest in the education of your child (children)
- a willingness to listen to the points of view of parents and be prepared to raise issues
- a desire to contribute to the improvement of our school.

### ***All Governing Council members are required to have a DCSI Clearance Check.***

From time to time there are casual vacancies on Council, which are filled by the council appointing a person to temporarily fill such a vacancy; this is usually until the next AGM.

If you would be interested in filling such a vacancy please register your interest with the principal or the council chairperson.

***Details of the current years membership of school council are published in the school newsletter early in the school year, or are available by contacting the school office.***

## GOVERNING COUNCIL 'PUBLICATIONS' AVAILABLE

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The following items are available from the school for all members of the School Community.

- The Constitution of the Council
- The Full Annual Report of the School for the previous year
- The Strategic Plan of the School (school improvement plan)
- The approved Budget for the current School Year

## CONTACTS

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