

Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council Agreement

The purpose of this school advisory council agreement is to establish the terms of reference for the partnership between the Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council, Strait Regional Centre for Education (SRCE), and the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to operate a School Advisory Council (SAC) at the school level.

Effective date and review of the agreement

The agreement begins when signed by all parties. The agreement shall be reviewed annually by the SAC before June 30 of each year. Any agreed-upon revisions can be made at that time and submitted to the SRCE and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for consideration, to become effective upon approval of all partners.

Structure of the council

The Advisory Council shall include the following members:

- the principal, who is a non-voting member
- one parents/guardian
- one teacher
- one member of the school's support staff
- one community member

Names of the members of the Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council and their respective years of service are detailed in an appendix to the bylaws.

Decision-making process

All decisions will be made by the Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council will be made by consensus where possible. If a consensus cannot be reached, a majority vote is required of the quorum present for the proposal to be approved.

- A quorum will be established when the meeting is called to order. A quorum will consist of a minimum of 3 of the voting members of the SAC.
- In addition, the principal or designate shall be present.

School advisory council commitments

The Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council will be responsible for:

- providing all SAC members with a voice in decision-making
- working in collaboration with the principal and participating in efforts to improve student achievement and student and community well-being by receiving information on the school improvement plan and monitoring progress and improvements under the plan
- assisting in developing policies that promote student achievement and safe and inclusive schools
- developing strategies to improve and support the extracurricular programs and special

projects of the school

- maintaining effective communication with parents/guardians by holding regular public meetings and making copies of agendas and minutes available upon request
- advising the principal and staff on any matters that are referred to the school advisory council by the principal, the regional centre or the Minister
- in accordance with the terms of the school advisory council agreement, determining priorities for spending the funds allocated to support the mandate of the school advisory council
- advising the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the Provincial Advisory Council on policy and other educational matters
- preparing an annual report in the form and containing the information determined by the Minister.

Regional centre for education commitments

SRCE will provide the following support to Felix Marchand Education Centre's School Advisory Council:

- orientation and in-service sessions for council members, and workshops on special topics upon request
- a facilitator to assist the school council as required
- feedback to the council on the school improvement plan and the annual report
- opportunities to give input on regional centre for education policies and procedures
- meetings between the regional executive director of education or designate and the school advisory council upon request
- copies of policies via the SRCE website
- mediation services when there is unresolved conflict between the school advisory council and the principal

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development commitments

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will support the Felix Marchand Education Centre's School Advisory Council by:

- developing educational materials to assist school advisory councils in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities
- providing opportunities to give input on provincial policies and any other matters referred to the SAC by the Minister
- providing mediation when there is unresolved conflict between the school advisory council and the regional centre for education
- organizing and/or supporting professional development opportunities for council members
- providing funds to support the mandate of the school advisory council

Parties to the agreement

We, the undersigned, understand and agree to follow through on the commitments made in this school advisory council agreement.

Felix Marchand Education Centre School Advisory Council Chair Date

SRCE Regional Executive Director of Education Date

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Date