

Resolving Conflict

Occasionally, a dispute may develop among school council members. It is expected that members and the principle will make every effort to resolve the dispute themselves.

Resolving disputes internally

- Council members will demonstrate respect for other council members at all times.
- Speakers will be allowed to speak without interruption.
- Speakers will maintain a calm and respectful tone at all times.
- The chair will focus the discussion on the council issues.
- The chair will clarify speaker statements, identify common points of view and attempt to achieve a consensus among council members.
- The chair may request disputing members of council to meet privately to find a mutually acceptable solution to the issue.

Handling disruptive behaviour

- If a council member becomes disruptive during a meeting, the chair shall call for order.
- If the disruptive behaviour continues, or order cannot be restored, the chair may ask for the removal of the disruptive individual(s). The reasons for the removal should be documented in the minutes.
- Removing a member from a council meeting does not prevent that member from participating in future council meetings.

Resolving disputes through mediation

- If it is apparent that a dispute cannot be resolved internally, the chair may ask the Superintendent of Education to help in the roll of mediator to help resolve the problem.
- The mediator shall remain neutral and will not make a decision in the dispute. The mediator shall assist the members to find a resolution in the best interests of the school and students.
- The resolution shall be signed and respected by all individuals involved in the dispute.
- The mediator shall report the resolution to the Superintendent of Education.