

Gov H02: Role of school councillors scenarios and responses

Scenario	Considerations / response
<p>Scenario 1:</p> <p>A parent writes to school council because he believes that the menu offered by the canteen is unsuitable. He has attached a petition that contains 50 supporting signatures in support of this.</p>	<p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is within the functions of a school council. • It is the role of School Council to approve employment of canteen staff. • It is also the role of council to listen to the views of the school community. • See the Canteens, Healthy Eating and Other Food Services Policy in the Policy and Advisory Library (PAL) on the Department's website. • See also Finance Manual Section 12 Trading Operations for further detail on the role of school council in engaging a third party to operate school canteens.
<p>Scenario 2:</p> <p>A teacher has been appointed to a position for one year at the school. The position is to be advertised and the teacher is keen to retain the position. The teacher has garnered a group of supporters among the parents, including one on school council who has promised to raise the issue at the next Council.</p>	<p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is not within the functions of school council. • The school principal is responsible for workforce planning and staffing decisions. • Ensure there is a clear process for raising items to be included on the council meeting agenda.
<p>Scenario 3:</p> <p>You were elected to council as a parent member. You are also a member of the school's Parents Club. School council has proposed changes to the Volunteers policy, changes that are concerning the Parents Club. The group has asked you to vote against the recommendations when they are put up at the council meeting. How would you respond?</p>	<p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is within the functions of school council. • A school's Volunteers policy must be consistent with the current department policy. • School councillors are not elected to represent the views of any particular group. • School council might encourage individuals and groups to contribute to the policy review process by writing to the council via the school principal or school council president. • School council might also conduct an open meeting to provide the group with the opportunity to communicate directly with the council (see the standing orders section in the ISG manual p.46-51)