

TEACHER REPRESENTATION

ATA Representatives

At the beginning of the school year each school / centre shall annually elect from among its teachers one representative as union representative.

Notwithstanding the above, there will be two union representatives each from Alexander Galt and Massey-Vanier High Schools.

A teacher from a school / centre may also be designated as a substitute for the union delegate. The substitute shall have all the rights and responsibilities of the union delegate.

I strongly recommend having a substitute. New teachers are welcome.

School / Centre Council Members

The School / Centre Council shall be composed of members of the teaching personnel elected by their colleagues. The number of School Council members shall not be greater than nine. The School Council shall be established by September 15th of each year.

Governing Board Members

Being a member of the GB allows concerns of teachers to be voiced, questions to be asked, opinions and comments to be expressed on various topics. It is a means for sharing teachers' experience and professional expertise.

Serving on the GB in the required number gives teachers a measure of control over the direction taken on various subjects that have an impact on the education of students and the life of the school or centre.

Teachers are the front-line service providers who have to live with the decisions made by the GB. The GB is an exceptional forum for partnership between those providing educational services and those receiving them. The views presented at the GB should reflect the opinions all teachers.

This involves:

- Including people in the formulation of any positions and before a decision is made. Depending on the size of the school or centre and the nature of the issue, different approaches to this are possible: general meetings, consultations by department or sector, a system in which each GB member is responsible for consulting a certain number of staff members to ensure everyone has a say, etc.
- Devising mechanisms for communication: posting of minutes, small informal meetings, etc.
- Maintaining close contact with union representative bodies in the case of all union and pedagogical matters. For example, a teacher member of the GB could be responsible for liaison with the school / centre council another with the union representative.
- Assuring collaboration among the different categories of personnel in the school or centre. For example, through a prior meeting e-mail or telephone call made to representatives of other categories of personnel in order to co-ordinate as much as possible any points of view and positions.
- Attempting to ensure a measure of coherence at the level of the school board by contacting your union with any problems or questions.

Site-Based Special Needs Committee

On or before September 30th of each school year, a committee composed of teachers and administration shall be set up in each school AND centre.

Professional Improvement Committee

At the first staff meeting of the year, a Professional Improvement Committee shall be established in each school and centre made up of at least three teachers and the Principal or Centre Director, with the exception of: Alexander Galt Regional, Massey-Vanier and Richmond Regional High Schools who shall establish a PIC comprised of the Principal or his designate and at least one teacher chosen by the teachers in each department. The Principal or Centre Director shall be a non-voting member of the committee.