

Information Sheet No.30

The role of P&C Council

The ACT Council of P&C Associations is the peak body for P&C Associations in government primary schools, high schools and secondary colleges in the ACT. It is a representative organisation whose objectives are:

- to foster a quality public education system
- to provide support services for affiliates and
- to make representation to government on behalf of parents in government schools.

It plays a particularly important role in promoting parent participation in schools and the system as a whole. P&C Council provides a structure through which parent views are consolidated. Through its representative and consultative structures, P&C Council enables all P&C associations to participate in the discussion of system-wide matters, and to inform these discussions with their experience within specific school contexts.

The activities of P&C Council include information dissemination, affiliate support services, consultation and co-ordination with affiliates, advocacy and representation and research and policy development.

Affiliation

Membership of Council is open to all ACT government school P&C Associations. Each school P&C association has direct representation on the Council through appointed delegates. The annual affiliation fee for each school is based on the number of its students enrolled at the time of the February census.

The Structure of Council

P&C Council consists of the delegates from each affiliated P&C Association. Affiliated high schools and colleges are allowed two delegates and primary schools have one delegate. Each delegate can be represented by an alternate delegate.

Delegates from P&C Associations are the main avenue of communication between the Council and its affiliates as it is they who relay information and raise points for discussion which enables the exchange of ideas and interaction between parents and their representative body. Delegates to Council are expected and encouraged to consult with their own P&C Associations on the matters discussed by Council.

A fifteen member Executive of Council is elected at the AGM which is held in November and is responsible for the work of Council between Council meetings which are held each month during term time. All major decisions taken by the executive are referred to Council for ratification.

P&C Council is an affiliate of the Australian Council of State Schools Organisations (ACSSO), the national government school parent organisation representing the interests of parents of children enrolled in government schools throughout Australia. ★