

Information Sheet No.15

The role of the principal in P&C associations

The first place you should look for guidance is your P&C's own constitution.

Under some constitutions, the Principal is a member like any other member of a P&C and is eligible to vote, move and second motions. The Principal is included in the quorum and has the right to move motions, second motions, speak for or against motions. Like any other member the Principal is obliged to take direction from the Chair and should speak through the Chair during discussions. As an ex officio member of the P&C, the Principal is not entitled to be on the Executive of the P&C Association or any of its Subcommittees.

An alternative practice is for the P&C constitution to specify the Principal as a non-voting member to emphasize the advisory role that he/she plays in relation to the P&C. Whichever form of constitution a P&C uses, it is appropriate for the Principal to facilitate and encourage active participation and decision-making by the parents of the committee. ★

(based on information from Queensland Council of Parents and Citizens' Associations)