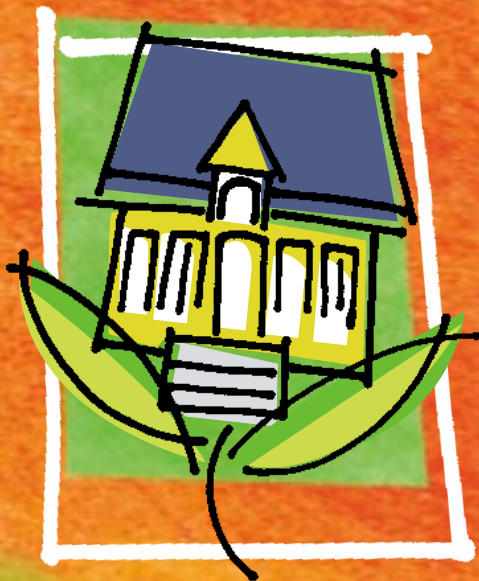


*THE GOVERNING BOARD:
A Great Way to Get
Involved in School Life*



→ **NEW
DIRECTIONS**
FOR
SUCCESS

Québec 

What is a governing board?

A governing board is an organization with substantial powers to help a school, vocational training centre or adult education centre meet the needs of all students. In the reform of Québec's education system, a governing board made up of interested individuals has been established at each school or centre.

Governing boards have been granted powers and functions enabling schools and centres to share the skills of all persons who have a stake in education.

A school's governing board exercises powers and functions related to matters such as the school's educational project, student supervision policy, the rules of conduct, the approach for the implementation of the basic school regulation, the time allocation for each subject and the use of the school's premises.

A centre's governing board exercises powers and functions related to matters such as the centre's policies and action plan, the approach for the implementation of the applicable basic regulation, the implementation of the programs of studies and the programs relating to student services and popular education, the centre's operating rules and the use of the centre's premises.

A governing board's decisions must be made in the best interest of the students.

Why should a person become a member of a governing board?

- Because students' interests and educational success concern all members of society
- Because the ideas, opinions and views of people in the community are important and strengthen the governing board's decision-making process

When are a governing board's members selected?

Schools:

At the beginning of each school year, parents are invited to attend a general meeting at which parent representatives are elected to the governing board. In September, school staff elect individuals to sit on the governing board.

During the same month, the students' committee or the association that represents students appoints governing board representatives.

Vocational training centres and adult education centres:

The members of a centre's governing board are not selected at any specific time of the year. Individuals become members of the governing board upon their appointment or election.

Who sits on a governing board?

A governing board may be composed of as many as 20 members.

Schools:

- at least four parents
- at least four members of the school staff, as well as one member of the daycare staff in schools providing childcare
- two students, in schools providing instruction at the Secondary IV and V levels
- two community representatives

Vocational training centres and adult education centres:

- students attending a centre
- at least four staff members
- at least two individuals appointed after consultation with socioeconomic and community groups

In the case of vocational training centres, the governing board also includes the following individuals:

- at least two parents of students
- at least two individuals from businesses within the region.

WHAT IS THE TERM OF OFFICE OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS?

Schools:

The term of office of parent representatives is two years, and that of the representatives of other groups, one year. However, the term of office of the chair—who is a parent—is one year.

Vocational training centres and adult education centres:

The term of office of members is two years.

What does one have to do to become a member of a governing board?

Parents:

Any interested person must go to the parents' general meeting of the school that his or her child attends. The meeting is held in September.

Members of the staff of a school or a centre:

Any individual who would like join the governing board should make this known at a staff meeting.

Community or business representatives:

Any interested person must contact the principal of the school, vocational training centre or adult education centre.

Students at the Secondary IV and V levels :

Any student who wishes to sit on the governing board should inform the students' committee or the association that represents students.

*For further information
on governing boards,*



visit our Web site
at the following address:

<http://www.meq.gouv.qc.ca/conseils> (click on the word “ENGLISH”),
or



contact the school, centre, school board
or MEQ regional office in your area

