

## FACT SHEET 6: ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL WITHIN THE P&C ASSOCIATION

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The Principal is an *ex officio* member of the P&C Association. That is, the Principal is automatically a member of the P&C Association because he/she is the school's principal.

The Principal is not required to pay a membership fee to the P&C Association.

The rights of the Principal in the P&C Association are the same as for any other member – the Principal is entitled to vote and to move motions at a meeting, except when acting as Returning Officer at the Annual General Meeting.

As an *ex-officio* member the Principal cannot stand for election to an officer-bearer position. Consequently, the Principal is often asked to act as an association's Returning Officer at the Annual General Meeting.

The Principal has no power of veto over a P&C Association, ie the Principal cannot allow or disallow any discussion or decision made by the association.

The Principal's role in a P&C meeting is to report to the meeting, respond to questions and give advice where necessary.

The Principal cannot be a signatory to a P&C bank account.

The Principal is also an *ex officio* member of the P&C Executive and all P&C sub-committees.

The role of the principal is addressed in the Department of Education and Training's February 1998 Memorandum to Principals, *the Partnership Between Schools and Established Parent Bodies*.

