

## WACSSO provides representation and services to P&C Associations

Western Australian Council of State School Organisations Inc (WACSSO) is the peak state body of the Parents & Citizens' movement in WA.

P&Cs are established under the Education Act for the purpose of supporting a strong government school system for the benefit of all the students.

WACSSO is committed to a public education system for all young people irrespective of their age, culture, socio-economic status, gender, level of ability or geographic location.

Currently there are over 650 P&C Associations affiliated with WACSSO.

WACSSO provides, representation and services to affiliated P&C Associations.

For more information about affiliation, please contact your State Councillor or the WACSSO office.

### OUR MISSION

The WA Council of State School Organisations Inc. influences the direction of public education towards the views of parents and citizens for the benefit of students

WACSSO is the representative of over 650 Parent & Citizens' (P&C) Associations throughout Western Australia. It influences the direction of education as one voice through negotiation with federal, state and local governments, the Minister for Education, and key stakeholders.

Founded in 1921, WACSSO strives to influence in a positive way, the future direction of education for the benefit of students encompassing all aspects of learning, including cognitive, social, emotional, health and physical education.

#### We are involved in:

- advocating for air-conditioning in schools
- changes to school crossings and the 40km zone around schools
- supporting the continuation of onsite Dental vans within schools
- delivering a P&C training program to P&Cs
- keeping in touch with relevant healthy school policy and Canteen issues
- continuing to influence the Federal Government to introduce greater funding to schools through the Investing in our Schools process and extensive input into associated legislation to bring about positive changes for government schools.



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THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS INC.



# What is a P&C Association?

A guide to the role of Parents & Citizens' Associations in government schools



# P&C Associations are the forum for parents and citizens in government schools who have an interest in their children's education

## What is a Parents and Citizens' Association?

Parents and Citizens' Associations are established under the School Education Act 1999 for the purpose of supporting a strong government school system for the benefit of all students.

A P&C comprises of parents and guardians of children attending a school or group of schools and other interested persons over the age of 18 years who have paid an annual subscription.

The Principal of the school is an ex-officio member by right of their position and only needs to pay for membership if they wish to be counted in the P&C quorum .

P&Cs meet on a regular basis in most government schools throughout Western Australia

### The functions of a P&C are to:

- ◆ **encourage** parents to participate in developing the school's educational policy.
- ◆ **develop** parent participation and involvement in the school.
- ◆ be the **forum** for parents to discuss issues pertaining to the school and its community and for gathering opinions.
- ◆ **promote** and **support** communication and cooperation within the school community and to bring educational matters to the attention of the wider community.
- ◆ have **representation** on the School Council.
- ◆ have **representation** on the local District Council of P&C Associations.
- ◆ **provide** extra resources for the benefit of government school students.

## The P&C and fundraising

The P&C is free to provide resources to the school as it sees fit but is not required to do so.

P&C Associations are not simply there to fundraise and indeed may elect to avoid fundraising in preference to other activities, such as discussion of educational issues and school policies.

However all surplus funds of the P&C (including surplus funds held in other P&C accounts) must be used for the benefit of students attending government schools.

