

Why Join the P&C?

There have been many reasons given why parents and community members will or won't be involved in the P&Cs. These should be taken into consideration when planning your recruitment campaign.

Positives:

- rewarding involvement
- assists to keep up with their child/children
- opportunity for personal development
- sharing in the school community
- keeping abreast with educational changes
- feeling you have made a difference
- can provide positive self esteem
- enhances self respect
- good environment to meet people
- want an opportunity to influence
- get to know teachers / principal
- opportunity to share expertise
- part of a large decision making group
- helps link school & community
- networking can develop opportunities

Negatives:

- don't understand the jargon
- can't get baby-sitters
- too far to travel
- English not first language
- lack of knowledge of P&C role
- afraid they have nothing to contribute
- views current membership as 'clique'
- indifferent attitude from past members
- can't see how it affects their child
- too much time and work involved
- impression that not an effective group

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.

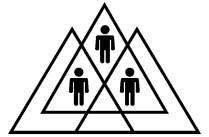
We are involved in:

- 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.



The Western Australian Council of State School Organisations Inc.
PO Box 6295 East Perth 6892
Phone (08) 9264 4000
Fax (08) 9264 4948
Email: info@wacssso.wa.edu.au
Website: www.wacssso.wa.edu.au

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL
OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS INC.



WACSSO

Supporting P&Cs since 1921

Promoting the P&C

How to attract and retain
members and volunteers



Attracting and Retaining Members and Volunteers

Attracting Members

Information booth:

Run by P&C members - at parent nights, fetes, shopping centres, etc

Let people know what your P&C is doing

Telephone:

Divide list of potential people between members of the P&C and make contact

Informal:

Discuss what's happening at your P&C informally - anytime, anywhere

Bring a friend to your next meeting

Door to door:

Similar to politicians personally meet and welcome potential members

Letters:

Send out flyers / invitations - recruitment style

Staff contact:

Ask your principal, teachers and administration staff that when they are talking to parents to encourage them to become involved in the P&C

Survey:

Survey the parents in your school to find out their view on the P&C - what the P&C could provide, why they don't attend, how could they make a difference and what meeting times would be most opportune

Media Contacts

Use your local media or local newspaper:

Provide an good news story on your PC (WACSSO can provide media information)

Posters:

Use good graphics, make them large colourful and informative

Retaining Members

Records:

Keep a record (either card file or computer) on each of your members ie when available, phone number, child's class, skills, jobs preferred, jobs done (see members register)

Hospitality:

Make new members feel welcome and valued

Appoint an experienced hand to take care of them at their first meeting

Make sure you know members by correct name

Delegate:

Involve as many members as possible - don't overload a few

Provide clear instructions or training for new members

Be honest about the amount of work involved

Have a handover period for new office bearers— consider mentoring new members

Acknowledge members contributions:

Send thank you cards

Present certificates of appreciation

Use the school or P&C newsletter

Social activities:

Encourage social activities - supper or wine & cheese after meetings (for permission for alcohol see your principal)

BBQ after busy bee etc

Effective meetings:

Adhere to agenda, state start & finish times

Involve all members

Make effective decisions

Carry out positive resolutions

Communications:

Create a P&C newsletter

Keep members informed consider using email letter

Distribute list of members to all other members

(only use phone numbers with permission)

