

School Councils are the part of the Education Reform Law of 1993 that best ensures the meaningful involvement of parents and community members. We need to elect one (1) parents to represent the Dr. Sweetsir School and two (2) parents and one (1) community representative to represent the Helen R. Donaghue School. Here are some frequently asked questions about School Councils:

Q: *What is a school council?*

A: The school council is an advisory body that works together to provide ideas and opinions to help the principal. Council member assist by:

- Providing information and recommendations relevant to the educational needs of students;
- Reading and discussing the budget with their principal to understand the implications for goals and activities in the school improvement plan; and
- Participating actively in the planning that results in the identification of annual goals, activities, outcomes, and resources that will lead to school improvement.

Q: *How often does the School Council meet?*

A: The School Council (combined HRD/FNS) meets on the first Monday of the month at the Sweetsir School at 4:15PM. Please contact the Donaghue School for the first meeting date. Meetings generally run for 1-1/2 to 2 hours.

Q: *How long does a School Council member serve?*

A: Members are elected for either a one or two year term.

Q: *Who serves on a School council?*

A: There are two teachers, two parents and one community member for each school. The principal of the school serves as a co-chair with a parent representative.

Q: *Do I need to be a member of the PTO to serve on the School Council?*

A: No, although we encourage all parents to join the PTO.

If you are interested in placing your name in nomination for school council openings, [click here](#), fill out and print the form. Return the form to the either school. An election will be held to select the new members. All names must be received by **September 13 (HRD), September 20 (FNS)**.