

SCHOOL-BASED DECISION-MAKING

Background

The Division believes that the majority of decisions affecting instructional programs in schools and the allocation of resources to support these programs can be made most effectively and efficiently at the school site. The Division further believes that sites other than schools should have decision-making authority as well, particularly in functions related to system administration, system maintenance and transportation and system program support.

In supporting decentralization of decision making to schools, the Division expects that collaborative processes will be used to encourage input from students, staff, parents and School Councils. It is intended that school-based decision making in the Golden Hills School Division No. 75 will be characterized by a low degree of system regulation, a high degree of communication and open, two-way interaction and support between the Division and its various sites, all of which should result in enhanced learning and teaching and higher levels of student achievement.

The Golden Hills School Division Framework for School-Based Leadership (Appendix 105A – Golden Hills Leadership Model) is recommended as a reference for school and system participants who wish to address issues related to school-based decision making.

Procedures

1. Individuals responsible for the supervision of particular “sites”, including Principals in schools, shall use appropriate collaborative and participative processes to involve students, staff, parents and School Councils in decision-making.
2. It is recognized that site supervisor(s), including Principals, shall require a level of discretionary authority in decision making, given that specific decisions fall on a continuum, with some requiring a great deal of participant involvement and others requiring very little.
3. To promote the successful implementation of school-based decision-making, an allocation of Division funding shall be made available to schools.

Reference: Section 20, 22, 60, 61, 113, School Act
School-Based Decision-Making Policy 1.8.2
School-Based Decision-Making Resource Guide (1997)