

School Council Elections 2025

Information for Parents

In February of 2025, Moorabbin Primary School will hold School Council elections. Half of the members of the School Council are required to vacate their positions. They may renominate for positions on Council for 2023. All members of the Moorabbin School community are encouraged to consider School Council membership and all retiring 2023/2024 Council members are encouraged to consider renominating. Attached you will find a Notice of Election and call for nominations.

THE SCHOOL COUNCIL REQUIRES:

- **3 PARENT REPRESENTATIVES.**
- **1 Co-opt PARENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Total of 4 parents needed

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- **A mandated elected DE employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

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Nomination notification form for school council parent representative

Please fill in and send to Noxia via Moorabbin.ps@education.vic.gov.au

- DUE: Thursday 13th February before 4.pm.
- results will then be announced on Monday 17th February
- If more nominations are presented than positions announce an election process will then proceed
- **First school council meeting Tuesday 18th February with new council**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Notice of election and call for nominations	-Friday 7/2/205
Closing date for nominations	-Thursday 13/2/2025
The date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be displayed	Thursday13/2/2025
The date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	-13/2/2025
Close of ballot	-14/2/2025
Vote count	-17/2/205
Declaration of ballot	-17/2/205
First council meeting to appoint Community members (the Principal will preside) and office bearers	-Tuesday 18/2/2025

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The name of the nominees, self-nomination or their nominator and the membership categories are as follows. For parent representative only, all other categories have been filled:

Parent member

Number of vacancies 4	
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2025	Friday 7 th February before 4.pm.
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2025	Friday 14 th February before 4.pm.
Name of nominees	
Name of nominators	

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Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote if an election is required.

Contact me for further information.

Noxia Angelides

Principal