

17th September, 2015

Dear Parents,

The following is a 'skinny' version of parent councils. I strongly urge you to learn more by reading a more detailed account which can be found in the links I've provided. If the reading is too mundane and laborious, then please attend the information session on the 23rd September, at Port Royal School. Questions may also be answered by Policy Analyst, Mckeown, Kimberley <krmckeown@gov.bm>

PARENT COUNCILS

✓ 1. **What is a parent council?**

- ✚ A parent council is an advisory body to the principal, established by, made up of, and representing the parent body of the school.
- ✚ Parents and schools determine the vision and what they would like to achieve within the framework
- ✚ Parent councils are for maintained primary and middle schools
- ✚ Parent councils are optional; parents decide
- ✚ All advisory responsibilities are optional and not mandated
- ✚ (Membership also includes the principal, at least one teacher or counselor and at least one community member)
- ✚ Parent councils are governed by the Education (Parent Council) Rules 2015 which commence on September 8th, 2015

✓ 2. **What a parent council is not?**

- ✚ A body that replaces the decision-making powers, wisdom, leadership or supervision of the principal
- ✚ A body that replaces or eliminates the PTA
- ✚ A forum for complaints
- ✚ There will be an **information session** about parent councils has been scheduled for **6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** for the **Western Zone at Port Royal Primary on Wednesday September 23rd**

The following are links to the Education Amendment Act 2015 and the Education (Parent Council) Rules 2015:

[http://www.bermudalaws.bm/Laws/Annual%20Laws/2015/Statutory%20Instruments/Education%20\(Parent%20Council\)%20Rules%202015.pdf](http://www.bermudalaws.bm/Laws/Annual%20Laws/2015/Statutory%20Instruments/Education%20(Parent%20Council)%20Rules%202015.pdf)

<http://www.bermudalaws.bm/Laws/Annual%20Laws/2015/Acts/Education%20Amendment%20Act%202015.pdf>

Thank you,

Mr. O. Osborne, Principal