

**NORTH VANCOUVER, School District #44
Partners, Roles, Legislation and Affiliates**

PROVINCE - BC Ministry of Education (MoE) www.gov.bc.ca

ROLE:

- The Ministry of Education oversees the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system and, following the May 2005 election, was given responsibility for early learning, literacy and libraries. This broader mandate integrates a range of family education services that enables the Ministry to improve coordination of learning and better serve the public.

LEGISLATION:

- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm

AFFILIATES:

- BCPSEA BC Public Schools Employers Association www.bcpsea.bc.ca
 - is the “employers’ association and accredited bargaining agent for the province’s 60 public school boards.”
 - Bargains with BCTF for the Collective Agreement

2. STUDENTS (volunteers)

We all know who the students are, but did you know that they also have organized representation at the school and District level? Students from all levels of secondary school are actively putting in their volunteer time to serve on committees, discuss important issues, attend board meetings, give feedback, and gather to promote important causes.

SLC - Student Leadership Council (District)

ROLE:

- Through its elected Directors/Executive, the Student Leadership Council shall provide an avenue for the provision of student opinion and input on educational issues and practices that affect student learning within the School District. The Council shall reflect as wide a diversity of student opinion as possible.
- Each secondary student in the District is a member of the Student Leadership Council
- SLC comprised of 5 student reps from each secondary school as voting members plus an additional Executive member.

LEGISLATION:

- District Policy #411 Student Leadership Council
<http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Administration/PoliciesAndProcedures/Series400/Policy%20411.aspx>
- SLC Constitution

3. PARENTS (volunteers)

PACs, DPACs, and SPC School Planning councils are all mandated by the province and play an important role in the system. We are the VOLUNTEER voice at the table and, as such, come to the table with a passionate voice on behalf of our children. We also bring many diverse skills from our other roles in our homes, in business, and other aspects of family and community life.

ROLE:

- Collective Voice of Parents in their school, district, or province
- Comprised of Volunteer Executive & Directors
- All parents of students are members

SCHOOL PACs – (Follow “School Links” on www.nvsd44.bc.ca website)

- Through its elected officers the Council may advise the Board, the principal, and the staff of the school in any matter relating to the school, other than those matters assigned to the School Planning Council (SPC). The principal and staff shall continue to carry formal responsibility to the Board through the Superintendent for decisions concerning the school and its effective operation.
- the collective voice of Parents within an individual school to act as a liaison between the interest of families comprised of students and their parents, the Principal, VP, and teachers in the school, and on matters of community relevance. Represented on School Planning Councils, at NVPAC, and at BCCPAC.

NVPAC North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council: www.nvsd44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC.aspx

- NVPAC is a District-wide legislated parent voice. Our purpose is to inform, educate and advise parents from across the School District on issues relevant to our children's education and the parent community. We aim to be the collective voice of parents in our community. We are the liaison for Parent Advisory Councils with our School Board, Senior School Board Administration, North Vancouver Teachers Association, Canadian Union of Public Employees and Principals in our school system. We also liase with other organizations in both our community and province on educational matters of common interest. We assist members in obtaining information and communicating with District personnel. Our hope is that we can help parents become more aware of the realities of running a school system on both local and district levels, and see the possibilities as well as the problems therefore raising awareness in the parent community. Represented at BCCPAC and at local school PACs.

BCCPAC BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils www.bccpac.bc.ca

- (individual schools and DPACs may join as members of BCCPAC)

- Just as a principal consults with the PAC on school issues and a school board consults with the DPAC on district issues, the Minister of Education consults with BCCPAC on public education issues in the province.

LEGISLATION:

- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm
- District Policy #403 Parent Advisory Councils
www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Administration/PoliciesAndProcedures/Series400/Policy%20403.aspx
- Individual PAC Constitutions and bylaws – school PACs may be incorporated as a Society or not.
- NVPAC Constitution www.nvsd44.bc.ca/sites/pdf/237/237-1480-2483.pdf
- BCCPAC Constitution & Bylaws <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/resources/conbyl.html>

AFFILIATES:

- BCCPAC BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils www.bccpac.bc.ca

EDUCATION PARTNERS

- TEACHERS,
- PRINCIPALS AND VICE PRINCIPALS
- SCHOOL STAFF
- NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
- BOARD OF Education (Trustees).

4. TEACHERS

The most important people that our children spend their days with every day are their teachers. Our children go to their jobs as “students” every day for 6 hours or more for the better part of 13 years. Because of the diversity and expertise of our Teachers, our children learn more than just academics, but they learn to be socialized, to adapt, to compromise, to be responsible citizens and, most importantly, to be challenged in their own way.

- BCTF - BC Teacher’s Federation - provincial www.bctf.bc.ca
- NVTAs – North Vancouver Teachers’ Association - lp44@bctf.ca

ROLE:

- Teachers provide a learning environment for all students. Through education, professional development, in-service training, and personal skills, teachers have a wide-ranging ability to reach a variety of students at various points in their

school careers. They are effectively role models, mentors, caregivers, and actors on a stage every day at school along with their primary role as an educator.

- The British Columbia Teachers' Federation is the union of professionals representing 38,000 public school teachers in the province of British Columbia, Canada. It is based in Vancouver.
- The organization of the BCTF provides for locals of teachers throughout B.C. Our locals deal with matters of local concern that affect the welfare of their members, such as making representations to appropriate boards of school trustees

LEGISLATION:

- Collective Agreement
- BC College of Teachers – Teaching Profession Act www.bcct.ca/standards/default.aspx
- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm

5. PRINCIPALS & VICE PRINCIPALS:

Principals and Vice Principals play a critical role in the management and focus of an individual school, or at the District level on specific programs. Students recognize the level of authority that a Principal or Vice Principal has. Teachers and support staff report to their administrators as they would the manager in any other industry. Principals and VPs have multiple skills including those of educators, human resources managers, building supervisors, counsellors, disciplinarians, community builders, team builders, and most importantly as leaders.

- PRINCIPALS/VP's (management positions) www.bcpvpa.bc.ca

ROLE:

- Principals and VP's are commonly referred to as ADMINISTRATORS.
- All North Vancouver Principals and Vice Principals (elementary, secondary, District) must belong to either the Association of Elementary Administrators (AEA) or the Secondary Study Group (SSG).
- The mission of the BCPVPA is to support members in providing quality leadership in public education. Local chapter representation may exist.

LEGISLATION:

- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm

6. SCHOOL BASED SUPPORT STAFF: (union positions)

This group includes all staff that keep the school running, our children learning, and our facilities in shape. The support staff is critical to the effective operation of our education system. We are all familiar with the friendly custodian, the busy

administrative assistants, the SEA Special Education Assistants, the playground supervisors, and the maintenance staff. They are an integral part of the school system and regularly interact with students on an everyday basis.

DISTRICT - SCHOOL BOARD (North Vancouver School District #44) www.nvsg44.bc.ca

7. BOARD OF Education <http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca/trustees.aspx>

The School Board is who we, as electors, vote for every time there is a municipal or city election in B.C. These people are entrusted with the job of making sure that our School District has a vision, a responsible and accountable manner in which they do business, and that the overall benefit of our students is kept in focus.

ROLE:

- The North Vancouver School Board is composed of seven elected trustees. Four trustees are elected by the electors of the District of North Vancouver and three trustees by the electors of the City of North Vancouver. The Trustees are collectively responsible for making the major policy decisions governing all aspects of education with the School District, as mandated in the *School Act*.
- Each Trustee is assigned a liaison position within a family of North Vancouver schools.
- The primary functions of the Board of Education are:
 - To set local policy for the effective and efficient operation of schools
 - to approve local courses and textbooks
 - to hire and assign teachers, supervisory personnel and administrative officers
 - to establish teachers' conditions of work;
 - to manage school district property;
 - to prepare and approve operating and capital budgets.

LEGISLATION:

- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm

- District Policies <http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Administration/PoliciesAndProcedures.aspx>

AFFILIATES:

- BCSTA - BC School Trustees Association: www.bcsta.org
 - BC's 60 school boards are all members of BCSTA. They look to their association to serve as a strong provincial voice and to influence government by representing the membership on matters affecting public education. In addition to advocacy, BCSTA provides its membership with timely information on issues, educational programs for school trustees and their staff, legal and legislative services and in-district consultation services

8. SCHOOL DISTRICT - SENIOR ADMINISTRATION: www.nvsd44.bc.ca

The STAFF of the School District report directly to the BOARD OF Education through the Superintendent and are responsible for the everyday operations and administration of the business of the School Board. From the Superintendent, the senior administration, the District principals, and the various management roles for NVSD#44, the direction and policy they follow must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

ROLE:

- The *School Act* delegates responsibilities to school boards to govern and oversee the management of school districts in accordance with specified powers.
- The Superintendent of Schools is the Chief Executive Officer of the School Board and is accountable to both the School Board and the Minister of Education. Through Principals and the School District's appointed administrative and supervisory personnel, the Superintendent is responsible for strategic planning; for carrying out the policies of the School Board; for administering the School District in accordance with the *School Act*; and for providing direction, leadership and support in education programming, financial management, human resources, and the management of facilities.

LEGISLATION:

- District policies and guidelines <http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/administration/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>
- School Act http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/S/96412_00.htm

AFFILIATES:

- BCSSA - BC School Superintendents Association www.bcssa.org
- BCSDSTA - BC School District Secretary Treasurers Association www.bcsdsta.ca