

School Council vs Parents Association

West Dalhousie School Council (WDSC)

- Regulated by the Alberta School Act
- A means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning
- A group of people who work together to advise the principal and the board of trustees on matters relating to the school
- Supports and engages the school, students and families
- Events to bring the school community together (e.g., muffin mixer, family dance, movie night)
- Events to support students and teachers (e.g., grade 6 farewell, staff appreciation)
- Has elected officers (chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, special events, volunteer, nature's place)
- All parents are members!

West Dalhousie Parents Association (WDPA)

- Regulated by the Societies Act of Alberta
- Societies are formed by people who share a common recreational, cultural, scientific or charitable interest
- Incorporation as a society results in legal authority, ability and *liability*
- Has the ability to fundraise through casinos (offered to societies and charities in a predictable cycle, about once every 18-20 months)
- Supports the school through funding library resources, technology, artist-in-residences, field trips, etc
- Supported new playground
- Has elected officers (chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer)
- All parents are members!