

Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) – Committee Size:

Committee Size – A Parent School Support Committee shall have no fewer than six and no more than twelve members, the exact number of which shall be determined in accordance with such guidelines as may be established by the District Education Council concerned (Education Act, Section 32(2)).

The Education Act (Section 32(1)) stipulates that all schools will have a Parent School Support Committee (PSSC).

The concept of PSSCs suggests that the Department and Districts value and encourage the participation of parents and guardians in the activities of schools.

While the size limitation for PSSCs stated in the Education Act was likely made to ensure that there were sufficient voices at meetings but also to ensure that committees did not become unwieldy, the limitation numbers could also preclude the participation of some parent and guardian volunteers in a school's activities if there was an abundance or lack of such individuals who which to be involved.

The underlined portion of the sentence on committee size above, provides the DEC with the latitude to address either an abundance or paucity of volunteers to form a PSSC, which may occur from time to time in both rural and urban centres of the districts.

Consequently, while School Administrations / PSSCs should generally follow the direction given in the Education Act regarding the size of PSSCs when establishing these committees each year, it is recommended that the ASD-West DEC direct that the Superintendent advise schools that should there be less than 6 volunteers or more than 12 volunteers who wish to form a PSSC, that the school administration seek DEC approval to form PSSCs outside of those parameters.