

## Webpage Content for Darwell School Council and Betterment Association

### Welcome Section

- **Welcome!** We are a passionate group of parents, educators, and community members dedicated to enriching the educational experience at Darwell School. Our council works collaboratively with the school to foster a nurturing and dynamic learning environment for all our students. As a united front, the School Council and Betterment Association strive to enhance student learning and promote a sense of community spirit. We believe in open dialogue, constructive collaboration, and active participation to ensure the best outcomes for our children and our school.

Join us in making a positive difference in our children's education and future!

- **Mission Statement:** "Our mission is to foster a vibrant, inclusive educational community at Darwell School by actively engaging parents, teachers, and students through community building events. We are committed to enhancing the quality of education and student life through thoughtful feedback, effective resource management, and the support of enriching experiences. As advocates for educational excellence and community involvement, we strive to support an environment where every student can thrive academically and socially."

### Role and Scope of Darwell School Council and Betterment Association

#### Role

1. **Advisory Body:** Serve as an advisory group to the school administration and the school board, providing input on issues impacting student learning and school environment.
2. **Community Engagement:** Facilitate communication and collaboration between parents, teachers, students, and the wider community.
3. **Educational Support:** Advocate for and support initiatives that enhance the quality of education and student experiences at Darwell School.
4. **Resource Allocation:** Assist in identifying and managing resources for school improvement projects and student activities, in alignment with the Betterment Association's objectives.

#### Scope

1. **Consultation and Advice:** Provide consultation and advice on matters concerning curriculum, school policies, and student welfare.
2. **Event Organization:** Organize and support school events, activities, and volunteer opportunities to enhance school spirit and community involvement.
3. **Fundraising:** Oversee and conduct fundraising activities under the Betterment Association to support school initiatives and projects.

4. Meeting Management: Conduct regular meetings to discuss and address issues related to school improvement, student activities, and community engagement.

### Limitations

1. Non-Governance Role: The Council does not participate in the governance of the school, such as hiring decisions, individual staff evaluations, or internal management.
2. Advisory, Not Authoritative: While the Council provides advice and suggestions, final decision-making authority rests with the school administration and the school board.
3. Non-Political Stance: The Council maintains a non-political stance and focuses solely on educational and community betterment issues.
4. Complaint Management: While open to hearing feedback, the Council is not a platform for airing grievances or personal disputes. It directs such issues to appropriate school or district channels.

### Engagement Guidelines

1. Inclusive Participation: Encourage and welcome diverse viewpoints and participation from all members of the school community. Hate speech is not tolerated.
2. Respectful Communication: Promote respectful and constructive dialogue in all interactions and meetings.
3. Transparency: Operate with transparency in decision-making processes and communication with the school community.
4. Focused Agenda: Ensure that meeting agendas and Council activities align with the defined role and scope, prioritizing matters that impact student learning and well-being.

### Meeting Information

- Meeting Schedule: Please see the sidebar for the next scheduled meeting!
- Agenda Submission: Want to add something to the agenda? Contact the Council Chair/President.
- Contact Information: Please contact the school for contact information.

### Addressing Concerns

- Procedure for Parent Concerns: Council's influence is limited to areas that impact the broader school community, such as school policies, educational programs, and community engagement initiatives. It is not equipped to handle individual grievances, complaints on school governance or management, etc.
- Encouragement for Constructive Dialogue: For concerns outside the Council's scope, such as employment issues, School governance, management, or associated complaints, the Council can help guide the process of respectful communication based on understanding the needs of our community as a whole.

### Resources and Guides

- Resource Links: Links to relevant documents such as the Alberta School Councils' Guidebook.
- Agenda minutes: Please email the school for link, or visit the school to see the Council information Board.

### Community Engagement Section

- Upcoming Events & Fundraisers: Highlight upcoming events and meetings.
- Volunteer Opportunities: Encourage participation in school and community events, emphasizing the role of volunteers in enhancing student experiences.

### Fundraising outcomes & spending

Did you know all funds are redirected back to the students and school? Every year our incredible Council and School work to provide exciting and inclusive giveaways and events for the kids, while also encouraging reading and learning!

### A list of funded events

- Free Birthday Hot Lunches!
- School-wide donut day!
- Funding for student snack bowl.
- BBQ day
- Funding new skis for the school
- Read-A-Thon prizes (ALL donations used to fund prizes for every student!)
- Learning Commons: Funding books, robots, and more!
- Christmas surprises! (Can't tell, still a surprise)

### Volunteering

Council volunteers run everything from Hot Lunches to Bakes Sales to monthly Fundraisers. We are dedicated and vibrantly active in the school, building community and trust. Join us!

### Footer

Disclaimer: A note clarifying the Council's role as advisory and non-political, committed to the welfare of all students and the school community. We are dedicated to inclusion and diversity.