

Chapter Five : Parent Managers



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Parent Managers

5.1 School-Based Management Governance Framework

- To tie in with the Government’s “school-based management” policy, all aided schools are required to establish Incorporated Management Committees (IMCs) for managing the schools.
- The composition of an IMC shall include the following persons: sponsoring body managers, parent managers, teacher managers, the principal of the school (ex-officio manager), alumni manager(s) and independent manager(s).
- A “Direct Subsidy Scheme School” or a specified school in Schedule 3 of the Education Ordinance may also choose to establish an IMC.

5.2 Recognized Parent-Teacher Association

- The IMC shall recognize one body of persons (however described) as a recognized Parent-Teacher Association for the purpose of electing and nominating parent managers.
- A parent-teacher association can only be recognized by the IMC as the recognized Parent-Teacher Association if the constitution of this association stipulates that only parents of current students or serving teachers may elect or become committee members of the association.
- The recognized Parent-Teacher Association may nominate such number of persons for registration as parent manager or alternate parent manager of the school as may be provided for in the constitution of the IMC of the school.

5.3 Parent Managers

- The constitution of the IMC of the school shall stipulate the number of parent managers of the school and there shall be not less than one parent manager.
- If there is only one parent manager, an alternate parent manager shall be provided.

5.4 Alternate Parent Manager

- Except for the right to vote, an alternate parent manager shall have the same rights and responsibilities of other school managers.

- The alternate parent manager may vote on any matter to be resolved by the IMC only when no parent manager is present or the school has no parent manager for the time being.
- An alternate parent manager shall be registered as a school manager and attend meetings of the IMC. Except in specific circumstances, he / she shall not be counted when establishing a quorum of the meeting. For details, please refer to Section 40AS of the Education Ordinance.

5.5 Nomination, Election and Vacation of Office of Parent Managers

The recognized Parent-Teacher Association may nominate such number of elected candidates for registration as parent manager or alternate parent manager of the school as may be provided for in the constitution of the IMC of the school. For details, please refer to Section 40AO and Section 40AX of the Education Ordinance.

(a) Qualifications of a parent manager candidate:

- He/she must be a parent of a current student of the school.
- He/she must not be a teacher of the school.
- He/she does not meet any of the stipulations in “Grounds for refusal to register manager” under Section 30 of the Education Ordinance.

(b) Qualifications of a voter:

- A voter must be a parent of a current student of the school.
- A teacher who is a parent of a current student is also qualified to vote.
- All parents of the current students of the school shall have equal voting rights.

(c) Election arrangements:

- The election shall be conducted by the recognized Parent-Teacher Association of the school.
- The recognized Parent-Teacher Association shall pay attention to the qualifications of the candidates and the voters.
- In the election, all parents of the current students of the school shall have equal voting rights and rights of candidature.
- The election system shall be fair and transparent.
- The voting in the election shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- The election of office-bearers of the recognized Parent-Teacher Association should be separated from the election of parent managers. Elected office-bearers of the recognized Parent-Teacher Association (including the Chairman) shall not serve as parent managers automatically.

- The recognized Parent-Teacher Association shall distribute ballot papers according to the number of parents instead of the number of families. This means that each parent shall only have one vote regardless of the number of his or her children studying in the school, and shall vote in his/her personal capacity.
- (d) Filling of vacancies:
- If a parent manager's son or daughter leaves the school during his/her term of office as a manager, his/her term of office shall continue until its expiry or to the end of the school year, whichever is the earlier.
 - If the position of a parent manager becomes vacant during his/her term of office (including when the manager leaves office during the term), the IMC shall, within three months, ensure that a person qualified to fill the vacancy is nominated for registration as a parent manager.
- (e) Vacation of office of managers:
- If the recognized Parent-Teacher Association deems a parent manager or alternate parent manager not suitable to continue to hold the office of manager, it may pass a resolution and make a written request to the IMC as regards the cancellation of the registration of the said parent manager or alternate parent manager. The resolution shall be passed in a manner which is, as far as reasonably practicable, similar to the manner in which the manager concerned is elected for nomination.

For the full text of the “Education Ordinance” (Cap. 279), please visit the bilingual law information system established by the Department of Justice at <https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/>