

MAPC Resolution
April 2012
Clear Expedited Process for
Addressing Traffic Safety Concerns for Students

- Respectfully submitted by MAPC Member Ecole Powerview School Parent Advisory Council, Sunrise School Division for consideration at the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

Background

It is within the mandate of a Parent Advisory Council (and certainly an individual parent) to raise concerns with School Administration regarding safety risks associated with vehicular traffic while on the way to school, while at school and while on the way home from school.

Given the nature of traffic safety risks, most of these types of safety concerns do require immediate assessment and correction where deemed appropriate. The severity and frequency of the safety risk are often high where traffic/student safety is concerned

The experience to date in parents raising these types of concerns is often marked by discussions with authorities on who actually has jurisdiction to assess and correct the traffic safety risk. The school, school division, municipality, workplace safety and health department, highways department and/or workplace safety and health committee all seem to have their own individual view which is often not shared amongst the possible authorities, and who all have their own processes and timelines to have issues considered – the result being the traffic safety risk to children is either not addressed or takes extended periods to even have the student safety concern considered.

In the meantime – children continue to be exposed to the possible traffic safety risk while regulatory and/or school authorities debate who actually has jurisdiction.

Introduction Statement

Keeping our children safe while travelling to and from school and while at school is a parent's primary concern – we are transferring accountability for our children's safety to the school each day and we expect the School and/or School Division will accept the same level of care and control as we do as Parents. When a Parent and/or Parent Advisory Council raises a safety concern with the School regarding traffic safety we do not feel it is appropriate to have the concern remain unaddressed while authorities determine who has the responsibility to assess and correct the safety risk. *The safety risk will not stop because of jurisdictional confusion.*

Action Requests

That the Minister of Education review the proper protocols for assessing/correcting traffic safety for students both while travelling to and from school and while at school and recommend a single expedited process or single lead person with authority to have these traffic safety issues assessed and recommending appropriate corrective action.